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From the Mich. Press Assoc.

Oct. 29, 1885

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION,

AT THE

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING,

HELD AT

TRAVERSE CITY, JULY 7, 1885,

WITH THE

Papers read upon that Occasion, Membership Roll, Constitution,
and a brief Account of the Excursion to Charlevoix,
Petoskey, Harbor Springs and Harbor Point.

NASHVILLE, MICHIGAN:
NEWS STEAM PRINT.
1885.





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NASHVILLE, MICHIGAN:
NEWS STEAM PRINT.
1885.

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:

A. J. ALDRICH, Coldwater.

VICE PRESIDENTS:

FRANKLIN MOORE, St. Clair,

J. T. MINCHIN, Ewart,

O. W. ROWLAND, Paw Paw.

SECRETARY:

J. W. FITZGERALD, Ovid.

TREASURER:

ROBERT SMITH, Ithaca.

HONORARY MEMBER:

HON. PERRY HANNAH, Traverse City.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL

FOR 1885.

Aldrich, A. J., Republican, Coldwater.
 Applegate, Tom. S., Times, Adrian.
 Ainger, D. B., Republican, Charlotte.
 Adams, G. L., Review, Fowlerville.
 Allen, Jay, Herald, West Branch.
 Allison, C. C., National Democrat, Cassopolis.
 Andrews, E. S., Enterprise, Williamston.
 Bacon, O. C., Journal, Petersburg.
 Bailey, C. W., Monitor, Vicksburg.
 Barnes, C. E., Call, Battle Creek.
 Bates, Thos. T., Herald, Traverse City.
 Baxter, C. E., Republican, Charlotte.
 Belknap, J. P., Observer, Portland.
 Bissell, B. B., Republican, Albion.
 Blackman, E. A., Daily News, Flint.
 Blosser, Mat. D., Enterprise, Manchester.
 Blymyer, W. G., Leader, Charlotte.
 Bowman, W. H., Leader, Hillsdale.
 Boynton, A. G., Free Press, Detroit.
 Bresler, R. L., Democrat, Ann Arbor.
 Broughton, T. W., Chronicle, Marshall.
 Brown, M. E., Daily Moon, Battle Creek.
 Bryant, D. S., Journal, Eaton Rapids.
 Burr, J. K., Record, Linden.
 Campbell, J. T., Local, Leslie.
 Cannon, J. W., Globe, Oxford.
 Carpenter, H. W., Independent, Shelby.
 Chapin, C. T., Times, Cadillac.
 Clark, Wm. F., News, Port Austin.
 Cline, L. L., Press, Bay City.
 Crawford, Elmer S., Argus, Ann Arbor.
 Decker, James J., Arenac Independent, Omer.
 Dennis, J. H., Journal, Hastings.
 Dewey, Geo. M., Times, Owosso.
 Doughty, J. R., Enterprise, Mt. Pleasant.
 Egabroad, S. H., Herald, Wyandotte.
 Estes, J. D., Clinton Independent, St. Johns.
 Farnam, H. T., Business, Hillsdale.
 Field, C. F., News, Tecumseh.
 Finn, A. H., Tribune, Port Huron.
 Fitzgerald, J. W., Union, Ovid.
 Flanders, J. S., Democrat, Sturgis.
 Forsyth, Edward, Democrat, Cheboygan.
 Foster, Eugene, Record, Gladwin.
 Fowler, S. W., Standard, Manistee.
 Fox, T. B., Era, Rochester.
 Fuller, Otis, Clinton Republican, St. Johns.
 Glass, Eugene, Call, Battle Creek.
 Gould, L. E., Advertiser, Bancroft.
 Graves, Francis, Plaindealer, Hastings.
 Hamill, Harvey C., Journal, Lansing.
 Hamilton, M. D., Commercial, Monroe.
 Hampton, C. S., Independent, Harbor Springs.
 Hendricks, G. A., Phys'n & Surg'n, Ann Arbor.
 Hillbours, C. S., Democrat, Hastings.
 Hine, Jas. W., Journal, Lowell.
 Hopkins, John A., Times, Vassar.
 Houthkamp, A., Commercial, Saugatuck.
 Hunter, C. L., Republican, Coldwater.
 Jackson, I. P., Times, Milford.
 Jennings, H. N., Independent, Fenton.
 Johnson, A. H., Banner, Hastings.
 Junkin, J. H., Record, Northville.
 Kelly, E. J., Bill Poster, Pontiac.
 Kinney, S., Lake Superior Sentinel, L'Anse.
 Kinsey, W. F., Daily Journal, Muskegon.
 Kittredge, K., Register, Ann Arbor.
 Kittredge, F. E., Herald, Quincy.
 Lake, W. O., Advance, Morley.
 Lane, W. A., Index, Homer.
 Lewis, Geo. F., Saginawian, Saginaw.
 Lewis, Grif., Labor Vindicator, Bay City.
 Love, L. H., Times, Athens.
 Lusk, John F., Eclipse, Chase.
 Marvin, John A., Democrat, Sturgis.
 Marvin, W. H., Sentinel, Utica.

McClure, C. H., Statesman, Marshall.
 McIntyre, H. N., Era, Lake City.
 McMillan, A., Evening Press, Bay City.
 Merchant, L. J., Traveler-Herald, St. Joseph.
 Miller, W., Argus, Chesaning.
 Minchin, Jesse T., Review, Evart.
 Moore, Franklin, Republican, St. Clair.
 Moreau, Geo. D., Journal, Corunna.
 Newkirk, C. F., Picket, South Lyons.
 Newkirk, J. L., Dispatch, Pinckney.
 Nichols, P. P., Courier, Coldwater.
 Nisbett, Wm. P., Herald, Big Rapids.
 Owen, C. W., News, Grass Lake.
 Owen, G. W., Shiawassee American, Owosso.
 Palmiter, L. S., Argus, Hart.
 Peckham, H. C., Herald, Freeport.
 Penfield, John B., Commercial, Vicksburg.
 Phister, A. V., Advertiser, Hubbardston.
 Potts, Geo. A., Local, Saranac.
 Potts, Hiram, Courier-Journal, Grand Haven.
 Reynolds, D. A., Times, Muir.
 Reynolds, J. Mason, Democrat, Grand Rapids.
 Robinson, T. F., News, Tekonsha.
 Rowland, O. W., True Northerner, Paw Paw.
 Rowland, S. C., Standard, Hillsdale.
 Russell, L. S., West Michigan Advance, Bangor.
 Ryan, M. T., Democrat, Allegan.
 Sagendorph, D. P., Prohibitionist, Charlotte.
 Sampson, F. W., Advance, Blissfield.
 Sanborn, D. L., Cleaver & Standard, Harrison.
 Saunders, Joseph, honorary, Battle Creek.
 Sawyer, W. K., Sun, Three Oaks.
 Schermerhorn, W. T. B., Jr., Gazette, Hudson.
 Seger, C. M., Times, Eaton Rapids.
 Sellers, L. M., Clipper, Cedar Springs.
 Sharp, A. E., Times, West Branch.
 Sheldon, Miss M. L., Artisan, Grand Rapids.
 Shepard, James M., Vigilant, Cassopolis.
 Slocum, Fred, Advertiser, Caro.
 Slocum, James A., Advertiser, Holly.
 Smith, E. J., Evening Record, Adrian.
 Smith, Robert, Gratiot Journal, Ithaca.
 Smithsonian, T. W., Star, Clio.
 Spencer, F. Henry, Journal, Lansing.
 Sprague, E. L., Eagle, Traverse City.
 Stacey, Geo. N., Courier, East Saginaw.
 Stacy, S. C., Herald, Tecumseh.
 Stair, Ed. D., Republican, Howell.
 Stair, Orin, Republican, Howell.
 Steers, J. H., Review, Wayne.
 Stevens, C. W., Journal, Eaton Rapids.
 Stone, J. C., News, Laingsburg.
 Stoutenberg, W. J., Leader, Marlette.
 Stowe, E. A., Tradesman, Grand Rapids.
 Strong, Orno, News, Nashville.
 Sweet, C. P., Kalkaskan, Kalkaska.
 Sweetland, John B., Argus, Edwardsburg.
 Tefft, V. J., Ingham County News, Mason.
 Thickstrum, D. C., News, Marcellus.
 Thresher, J. P., Palladium, Benton Harbor.
 Tillo, C. D., C. N. U., Chicago, Ill.
 Tinklepaugh, J. N., Leader, Kalkaska.
 Turner, C. B., Gazette, Pontiac.
 Van Buren, Wm., Republican, Lansing.
 Van Fossen, I. W., Herald, Paw Paw.
 Wagott, D. D., Journal, Bronson.
 Ward, James R., News, Roscommon.
 Warren, R. L., Recorder, Albion.
 Whitehead, A., Eccentric, Birmingham.
 Whitmore, D. P., Democrat, Mason.
 Westland, W. C., Independent, Grand Ledge.
 Wiland, W. H., Independent, Bronson.
 Wilcox, L. G., Tribune, Bay City.
 Willard, Geo. B., Journal, Battle Creek.
 Wilson, J. H., Torch Lake Times, Lake Linden.
 Worch, Rudolph, Volksfreund, Jackson.

• CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be known as the MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE II.

The object of this Association shall be the promotion of the general interests of the press of the state of Michigan.

ARTICLE III.

Every bona fide editor or publisher, or person connected with the editorial or business management of a newspaper in this state, who shall pay into the treasury of this Association ONE DOLLAR as a membership fee, shall be considered a member of the Association during the year for which the membership fee has been paid.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer, soon after the close of each annual session, to send a postal card to every publisher in the state, who has not paid the annual fee, quoting the preceding part of this article and requesting him to pay into the Association treasury the annual ONE DOLLAR membership fee.

By a two-thirds vote, the Association may admit as honorary members any persons who have been editors and publishers.

ARTICLE IV.

The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, three Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected at each annual meeting and shall hold their offices for one year, or until their successors shall be chosen.

The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall serve as an Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V.

The Annual Meeting shall be held upon call of the Executive Committee on such day, in each year, as said Executive Committee may determine, they giving due notice of the same.

Special meetings may be called by the President, at the request of any ten members of the Association, or by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI.

By-laws regulating its proceedings may be adopted by a majority of the Association.

ARTICLE VII.

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting.

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The eighteenth annual meeting of the Michigan Press Association was held, in conjunction with the Western Michigan Press Association, at Traverse City, commencing on Tuesday, July 7th, at 9.30, a. m. A subsequent meeting was held at Petoskey on Wednesday evening. The meetings of the two associations were held separately, but attended *en masse*. The joint convention was attended by over two hundred publishers, who were accompanied, almost without exception, by ladies. This gathering of editors was the largest on record in this state. An account of what the editors did and said is briefly narrated in the following pages.

TUESDAY FORENOON SESSION.

Library Hall, at the hour designated in the programme for the initial meeting of the Michigan Press Association, presented an animated appearance. The meeting was called to order at 9.30, by Hon. C. S. Hampton, President of the Association.

Calling of the roll by Secretary Strong disclosed the fact that forty members of last year's meeting were present. Other old members came in subsequently.

The President announced that the first order of business would be the appointing of the regular committees.

A. H. Finn, of the Port Huron Tribune, moved that a committee of five upon nomination of officers be appointed. The motion prevailed.

The chair appointed Messrs. A. H. Finn, A. McMillan, W. B. Weston, Thos. T. Bates and A. J. Aldrich as such committee.

W. A. Lane, of the Homer Index, moved that a committee of three upon resolutions, whose duty it should be to confer and act with a like committee from the Western Michigan Press Association, be appointed. The motion prevailed.

The chair appointed Messrs. W. A. Lane, J. W. Fitzgerald and Tom. S. Applegate as such committee.

R. L. Warren, of the Albion Recorder, moved that a committee of three, whose duties should be to receive propositions from places desiring the next annual meeting of the association, be appointed. The motion prevailed.

The chair appointed Messrs. R. L. Warren, Otis Fuller and Geo. F. Lewis as such committee.

Fred Slocum, of the Tuscola County Advertiser, moved that a committee of three to draft suitable resolutions upon the death of members of this Association who were with us at our last meeting, be appointed; and that such resolutions be spread upon the records of this Association and a copy be forwarded to the relatives of such deceased. The motion prevailed.

The chair appointed Messrs. Fred Slocum, Jas. W. Hine and Wm. P. Nisbett as such committee.

Geo. M. Dewey, of the Owosso Times, a member of the committee on libel law, made the following report:

To the Michigan Press Association:

GENTLEMEN:—Your committee appointed at the seventeenth annual meeting of the Association "to draft a bill in relation to libel to be presented to the next session of the legislature, which would, upon becoming a law, not only protect the reputation of citizens, but also protect the privileges of the press," beg leave to report:

Upon due consideration of the subject in the light of the discussion at the meeting, your committee drafted the following bill for presentation to the Legislature:

A BILL RELATIVE TO SUITS FOR LIBEL.

SECTION 1.—*The People of the State of Michigan enact:* In any suits brought for the publication of a libel in any newspaper in this state the plaintiff shall recover only actual damages if it shall appear that the publication was made in good faith, and did not involve a criminal charge, and its falsity was due to mistake or misapprehension of the facts, and that in the next regular issue of said newspaper after such mistake or misapprehension was brought to the knowledge of the publisher or publishers, whether before or after suit brought, a correction was published in as conspicuous a manner and place in said newspaper as was the article sued on as libelous.

SEC. 2. In any action or suit for the publication of a libel in any newspaper in this state, the plaintiff shall not be entitled to recover, in addition to actual damages, any greater sum than five thousand dollars.

SEC. 3. The words "actual damages" in the foregoing section shall be construed to include all damages the plaintiff may show he has suffered in respect to his property, business, trade, profession or occupation, and no other damages.

Without the words in italics this bill was at an early day in the session introduced by Senator Moon and referred to the Judiciary Committee. Owing to some misapprehension in Committee as to the attitude of the press toward the law of libel, the bill remained inacted upon until a late day, when it was amended by inserting the words italicized and reported without recommendation. As the amendment was deemed of no great importance your committee acquiesced in it rather than risk the defeat of the entire measure, which an attempt to restore it to the original form would undoubtedly have insured. Notwithstanding the lack of support from the Judiciary Committee and the avowed hostility of certain members of that committee, the bill commended itself so strongly to the good sense of the Senate that it passed that body without serious opposition. Subsequently, on the last day of the session, it passed the House, and became a law on the 20th of June by the Governor's approval.

Your committee congratulate the Association upon what is believed to be a long step forward in libel legislation, and a reform which is calculated, without prejudice to the real rights of individuals, to relieve the press of Michigan from the annoyance of speculative libel suits.

Respectfully submitted,

A. G. BOYNTON,	} Com.
GEO. M. DEWEY,	
A. S. KEDZIE,	
S. W. FOWLER,	
D. B. AINGER,	

July 3d, 1885.

Wm. P. Nisbett, of the Big Rapids Herald, moved that the report be accepted, adopted, spread upon the minutes of record, and that the committee be discharged. The motion prevailed.

The report of the committee on libel law brought out a lively discussion upon the amended law. V. J. Tefft, of the Mason News, suggested that a committee be appointed to prepare needed amendments to the new libel law. Otis Fuller, of the St. Johns Republican, moved that a committee of five, whose duties should be to draft amendments to the libel law, to consider what other legislation is desirable, to look after all legislation pertaining to Michigan publishers, and to report at the next meeting, be appointed. The motion prevailed.

The chair appointed Messrs. Otis Fuller, V. J. Tefft, A. G. Boynton, Jas. W. Hine and Wm. Van Buren as such committee.

After enrollment of a large number of new members, the convention adjourned to 2:30 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association convened promptly at 2:30 o'clock and was called to order by the President.

A number of publishers were enrolled as new members.

The President read the following telegram, which he had just received from C. L. Lockwood, Gen. Pass. Agt. of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad:

GRAND RAPIDS, JULY 6, 1885.

C. S. HAMPTON, Traverse City:

The pass issued upon your request to Frank Towns, of the Lansing Sun, for the press excursion, has been offered for sale here to-day. I have instructed our conductors to refuse to accept if presented.

C. L. LOCKWOOD.

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

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R. L. Warren, of the Albion Recorder, announced that later on he would offer a resolution which would deal with Town's transgression.

Treasurer Slocum submitted his report for 1884, as follows:

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION, IN ACCOUNT WITH FRED SLOCUM, TREASURER.

CR.

1884.	June 25.	By balance on hand,.....	\$ 19 00
		By dues paid at annual meeting.....	85 00
			\$104 00

DR.

1884.	June 25.	To paid approved bill of Orno Strong.....	\$ 48 85
		To paid approved bill of A. McMillan.....	9 50
		Balance on hand.....	55 25
			\$104 60

Upon motion the report was accepted and adopted.

Tom. S. Applegate, of the Adrian Times and Expositor, read the following paper on

RANDOM THOUGHTS ABOUT THE NEWSPAPER BUSINESS.

Members of the newspaper guild, Ladies and Gentlemen:—I am glad to be with you here to-day, and I feel especially pleased and honored to be accorded the privilege of standing here, looking in your faces and contributing my small quota to the possible pleasure of the time.

I regret, exceedingly, that I am compelled to occupy any portion of the time allotted to me in making an apology. I believe I am not alone in the fraternity in my dislike of the necessity for apologizing. But I beg your pardon for using manuscript while addressing you. I have not had the time, even had I the ability or the inclination, to commit to memory this stuff that I have written; impromptu speaking was always beyond my powers, and hence these random thoughts must be read.

When the President of this association, sitting in my office, mentioned this meeting and was kind enough to ask me to prepare a paper for it, he remarked: "You are one of the veterans, you know, and we want you to help us along." To a man engaged in newspaper work, particularly on a daily, time is far from leaden-footed. I have been in the daily harness, in this state, continuously since the fall of 1863; I have earned the right to be considered a veteran, and I am proud of the distinction. And yet to a man who is continuously at work, in our profession, and who likes his work, the feelings of age come but slowly. In most things we begin by crowding our elders off the stage of action; in our turn we are hustled by the youngsters. But to one who loves our work, and is fitted for it, it offers a never-failing refuge from any temporary annoyances, and as each day brings its work, so each day brings its recompenses—which means, sometimes, getting even—and the days and the weeks pass by, leaving few traces of their flight, except the constantly accumulating files, that tell their own story of work done, of defeats sustained, or of victories won.

When the Jackson, Lansing & Saginaw railway was finished to the valley, the management arranged for an excursion from Jackson. On that occasion it was my pleasure to meet many of the newspaper men of the state. We agreed that a state association would be a good thing, and I was one of the signers of the call for the meeting out of which this association grew. The excursion took place December 17th and 18th, 1867; the meeting of which I speak was held in Jackson Hall, Jackson, Thursday, Jan. 23, 1868. But at that initial meeting I well remember that we were not allowed to think that we youngsters had originated a new thing. We were told that long before there had been a press association; how long this was I do not know, and I have never seen any record of its proceedings.

The greatest of English novelists was fond of a simile in which the world was a Vanity Fair, and his characters, which could be duplicated in most communities, were puppets which performed in the various booths with more or less public entertainment. I have thought that the journalist, in the particular booth of the fair in which his lot was cast, would, if his fingers were deft enough, soon control the wires which moved the puppets, and would direct their movements, largely, as he pleased. If he became a manager he would find the political puppet the easiest moved, and by far the most numerous; the clerical puppet can be coaxed through a lively performance, on occasions, by the potent power in the hands of an editorial manager; the legal puppet is always reliable for an entertaining exhibition, while the sweet society puppet, of either or of no sex, can always be put through its paces when the audience clamors for the motley. I have thought the journalist who knew his business would always remain the director—the lecturer, as poor Charley Brown used to put it—of the great moral show. And if he is so minded he can make the puppets pay well for their appearance on the stage, and thus be enabled to reduce the price of admission to the general public—his subscribers.

That a sort of cynicism is begotten of the smell of printer's ink, no one who smells it long will doubt. But this is the penalty of the profession. If we are to have theatres we must have stage

managers; newspapers equally need directors. The stage manager knows that the fairy came to the stage door in a sloppy dress, with waterproof and rubbers, and that he is responsible for the rare and radiant appearance she presents before the public. He knows that her diamonds, like her complexion, are bogus, and that even her smile is part of her stage dress, assumed before a glass, with her equally entrancing stockings. He knows the chemical composition of his soft and dreamy moonlight, knows that his moss-covered bank is only a mud-colored board, knows that the lovers on the stage are liable to come to real blows at the drop of the curtain. But he does not give these things away; neither will the shrewd editorial manager, though he may be equally well posted in regard to his puppets and properties. Far be it from me to divulge any professional secrets; are we not all fellow craftsmen?

We hear a good deal on occasions about the establishment of chairs of journalism in colleges. I see no need of them; the woods are full of journalists now, and the common use of "patent insides and outsides," and of plates treating of every conceivable and inconceivable topic, with scores of ready writers whose pens are employed by powerful newspaper syndicates, the professor of journalism, and equally his graduates, would soon find themselves, like Othello of old, out of a job.

But the great need of the hour, especially for the most of us, is a training school of some sort for the business branch of the newspaper. We need men who can cope with the skilled and oily-tongued traveling agent, or his brother who has his lair in the city and throws his web over all the country. We need men who can make up an advertising scale and stick to it, in all the moods and tenses. Such men are far rarer than they ought to be. Why, I remember that this association offered a prize, I think of \$25, for the best constructed advertising scale, and I do not think the prize was ever claimed. There are a few printing offices in the country that have graduated good newspaper and job work accountants, and probably the good printing office is the best school; but there are few good printing offices that are what they ought to be in their business departments. The alleged journalist fills more space than he is entitled to; the tall tower would fall and the able young editor be compelled to earn a harder, if not a more honest, living in some other way, were it not for the unacknowledged labors of the man in the counting room, carefully seeing that the obituary poetry is duly paid for by the line, that the announcement of the church fair is not smuggled in gratuitously, that the political puff is promptly atoned for in good cash.

Ah, my brethren, it is not so hard to get out a good newspaper as it is to make it pay, and in order that it prove remunerative it is absolutely necessary that there should be competent and careful accounting. I am sure that this department of the business is not cared for as it should be. I have taught to half a dozen men this branch of our profession, and neither they nor myself are possessed of sufficient knowledge to properly conduct a newspaper counting room.

It has often seemed to me that the days of the pioneer journalist—as we have been used to think of him—are over.

I was commissioned by Gov. Bagley to prepare, for the Centennial, a history of the press of Michigan, and in an eager search after those truths with which the volume was to be filled, I came across many a bit of pioneer newspaper history that was unique. Take this for example: George A. Smith, in 1851, started the first paper ever issued in Barry county, and named it, appropriately, the Pioneer. It is probable that not more than twenty-five numbers were issued the first year, for some of that time Bro. Smith had no money with which to buy stock, and was compelled to earn it in other avocations. Through harvest no paper was issued, the editor being compelled to work in the field to procure bread for the year. Mr. Smith was married, of course, all truly good editors are, and the appearance of a small edition, not of the paper, necessitated a suspension for three weeks, as the editor had to be nurse and domestic. That was at Hastings, in 1851. The paper was democratic in politics, and if the editor and his paper could have lived to this year of the full fruition—well, perhaps not exactly the full fruition—but the fruition of democratic hopes, he would have been entitled to the best office in the state in the gift of the party.

Two years ago I was, for a day or more, in a little place in the mountains of Montana. There was scarcely a sidewalk in the embryo city; the business buildings—and there were no other—were of wood, cloth and iron, packing boxes, old flour bags, and stove-pipe, all being utilized in their construction. The citizens claimed 1,500 inhabitants, but if there were 500 in the place I miss my guess. But it is as hard to find a place out there with less than 1,500 population as it is to find a paper with less than that number of subscribers. In this little place there were two weekly papers and one daily, and, strange to say, they all seemed to be busy. I looked in on them all—last on the daily editor. He was a young man, well dressed, bright and wide awake. I had a pleasant chat with him, and when I turned to go I thought it the clever thing to say that the next time I came there I should expect to find him in an office of his own, with a steam press and all the latest improvements. And, you will hardly believe me, he understood me seriously. Quoth this pioneer of the present age: "Oh, we've got the lot already; come and I'll show it to you." We stepped out and he showed me a space

in the dry and dusty soil, which he said was a corner lot, on what was bound to be two of the principal business streets of the city, when it got "settled down." Said he, "My partner is east now, looking for a power press; I have got the refusal, for sixty days, of an engine, so we shall soon be nicely fixed, you see." This young man and I walked down the alleged street, to where an inquest was in progress on the first murder case in the place, an event, by the way, which the local press took a just and laudable pride in. And as we strolled along, and I listened to the pleasant chat of this bright young fellow, my thoughts recurred to what I have before related, of that Barry county pioneer, back in the fifties, nearly as I have given them to you.

Of course, the places were differently located and the times were different, but the key to the real difference rests in the fact that my friend in the far west had plenty of advertising, while Bro. Smith, of Hastings, Barry county, and blessed memory, probably had none worth speaking of.

MORAL: *Get advertising.* Advertising is the life-blood of a newspaper. If you happen to be located in a place where the business men do not advertise, move out—if you can—and try to find some place where they do.

It is the large receipts from advertising that furnish the means for the much-vaunted enterprise of the great newspapers of the country. With a newspaper making more money than the proprietor, working with great industry, can possibly squander, it must be comparatively easy to be enterprising. Some of this enterprise extends the circulation, extension of circulation increases the advertising patronage, and this enables the proprietors to take trips to Europe, to buy yachts, to send Stanleys in search of Livingstones—to do anything and everything that can be done with money.

The newspaper guild had scarcely been established ere its members began to make themselves felt—felt and feared. The invective, the Billingsgate, the gross personalities indulged in by the earlier editors was to the milder rancor of to-day as vitriol to vinegar. I have often reflected with pleasure on the improved tone of our papers. Now, it seems that the old savage fashion was remanded to the frontiers of civilization and was frowned upon by newspapers of the better class—if we overlook occasional relapses into barbarism. And it is better so. The readers of newspapers, I think, look upon these tilts between rival editors with much the same feelings that they would look upon a cocking main, where the birds were game, and in which the only care of the spectators was to prolong the contest, with but little regard to the outcome. I am pleased to note what seems a better tone in the press. It looks like a sign of an increase of self-respect in the ranks of the profession.

Wandering at random, again, and using my veteran's privilege of rehearsing twice-told tales, ("chestnuts," do I hear some younger brother suggest?) I recall that at one of the early meetings of this association a proposition was made that all the publishers of Michigan unite in establishing an agency, in New York city, through which should come all the advertising for the state. The scheme may not be practicable, but I see no reason why, if there was a reasonable degree of unity on the part of the publishers, it would not be entirely feasible. It certainly has an alluring look and promises profit. The money paid in commissions to agents by the publishers of Michigan would afford our representative a handsome salary, would pay office rent and other incidentals, and leave a good margin over. There must, of necessity, be a reasonable degree of unanimity in the scheme, and not only unanimity but honesty. The parties to the pool must be honest with each other, and with their agent. But on reflection I am inclined to think the scheme is somewhat Utopian. Before dismissing the "thought," however, I wish to record myself as not doubting the entire honesty of the publishers. Some carping critic might interpret me differently, and this I can not afford. For am I not a publisher myself, and have I not had dealings with publishers for lo, these many years!

I am a firm believer in the strength of union. I would like to see more union of interests among makers of newspapers. There is too much antipathy among them. I should like to see the publishers of a town united to maintain fair, living prices for the honest work they do. I should like to see county organizations of publishers united for the same end; and I should like to see congressional district organizations—though these should have more vitality than was exhibited at the meeting of the publishers of the Sixth district, at Owosso, the other day. These organizations should all be subordinate—in a certain sense—to this association. At the meetings of the auxiliary associations plans for mutual benefit should be discussed and digested, and if their scope should be broad enough, these plans should be laid before the meetings of this association, for discussion and adoption, should the latter seem proper.

I think the best brain of the time is employed in the newspaper business. And while other professions unite for mutual profit and protection, and newspaper publishers indicate how best the unity should take place, I can not understand why we should not take occasional doses of our own medicine.

I have never seen a newspaper so poor that it was not worth all, and much more, than it cost to the subscriber who purchased it. Of course, we all wonder why buyers of newspapers are so foolish as to take a copy of our esteemed contemporary, when they could get, for the same outlay, one of our

own, brighter, newslar, and every way better issue. But if we were not engaged in the business, would we not admit that the issue of the other paper was worth more than the publisher got for it?

I believe that we, as a class, do more work for less money than the members of any other profession, and not only for less money, but for less gratitude. What member of the last Michigan legislature but was indebted to newspaper influence, probably for his nomination, most certainly for his election!

The candidate for office, while asking the people for their suffrages, is extremely sensitive to newspaper criticism, extremely solicitous for newspaper praise, extremely anxious that the editor should overlook his short-comings, magnify his good deeds, and, generally, put him in the best light before his fellow citizens. And yet, if this candidate chanced to be elected, and a seat in the legislature is the prize at which he aimed, it seems as though, as soon as he was sure of his place, that he conceived the idea that the people had sent him to Lansing for the sole purpose of legislating to reduce the legitimate profits of printers. I have no patience with such people, but I do not think they ought to be forgotten. On the contrary, I plead that they may be embalmed in our memories. But I should favor unrolling the cerements, in case they should again aspire to public office.

Of thoughts about the newspaper business there need be no end, but I have already taken up more time than I ought, and I propose now to give way to others who I am sure are more competent to amuse, or instruct, or both. Again returning thanks for the opportunity afforded me of addressing you, I bring these random thoughts to a close.

* * *

Jas. L. Lee, of the Shniedewend & Lee Co., Chicago, read the following practical paper on

HINTS ON THE PRESERVATION OF TYPE.

I am expected to give a few hints on the preservation of type. The subject is broad, and in order to come within the time allotted I shall endeavor to give the hints and omit embellishments.

We should consider somewhat the materials used and the processes involved in the manufacture of type in order to better understand the matter, but this would require too much time and possibly be too tedious for the present occasion.

The type is received from the foundry as shining and handsome as little bars of pure silver. If you would preserve it, that is get the most wear out of it, you must begin with the lay of the case. Don't squabble it by dumping it on the stone or galley. Type frequently receives irreparable injury right at the start from being shoved about like ten penny nails. Forcing a rule between the lines when laying will often injure ascending and descending letters. A good way to obviate this is to provide yourself with a small wooden galley, just the size of a package of type, place the font or page of type in this, when line after line may be laid rapidly and without injury to the most delicate dot or hair line.

Uneven spacing causes a deal more harm to the face of type than is generally supposed, especially when the form is planed down in a careless way without properly loosening the quoins; the lines which are spaced tight ride up and the planer batters them without making the form even. Speaking of planing reminds me that much type is injured through the mistaken notion of many a so-called printer that a form is a drum and he plays a rat-tat-too or a jig with mallet and planer upon its delicate face.

Another source of wear may be found in allowing type to be off its feet in the stick or galley. This throws the face of the type uneven to the platen or cylinder, as the case may be, and in order to make it print a heavy and unequal impression becomes necessary.

Steel make-up and composing rules in the hands of careless workmen are chargeable with much damaged type. Examine carefully the ascending and descending letters, "b," "p," "d," "q," "y," etc., and if you find they are crushed and broken you may rest assured the cruel steel has caused the mischief.

Uneven make-up of forms will cause a column to spring, and of course it receives the thrust of the impression much greater than if it were even with the rest of the form. Bending spaces and letters, a reckless subterfuge resorted to by blacksmiths in lieu of changing a 3-m for a 4-m space, or an en quad for a 3-m space to make a line justify, is death on spaces and injures the type by throwing it off its feet. Battered and short leads and slugs are not only an annoyance to the make-up, but allow letters to slip by and ride, making it impossible to plane the form down evenly, and all high letters are battered in planing and printing.

The use of soft blankets wears out the type rapidly, as the soft and yielding pressure forces the paper into and around the letters, wearing away the hair lines and dots, and giving the type a polished and rounded appearance. A perfectly hard tympan is best of all, where type is even in height and a skilled pressman is in charge of the press, but in country offices I have found the rubber blanket the most reliable and convenient, and at the same time less injurious to type than softer substances,

such as felt or cloth. This does not apply to the callous old rubber that has done duty for a decade and is coated with ink and punched full of holes till its surface is as rough as an elephant's hide and about as fit for taking an impression on a type form. A good rubber blanket will last with care from three to five years. To obtain the best results it is wise to use a cover of fine bleached muslin; when this becomes dirty or inky it should be washed and ironed. Perhaps you say, "How are we to get the ink out of it?" Rub it all over with oil (lard, machine, or kerosene oil will do), leave the oil on all night, or longer will be better, then the ink may be readily removed with soap and water. By the way, this will be found useful in removing printer's ink from clothing.

Keeping portions of a font of type standing for the purpose of saving "fat," as we call it, in head lines, parts of legal notices, blanks and other jobs, will materially shorten the life of the type; it soon becomes unequal in height, and in order to produce a fair print an extra pressure is necessary. Keep your type in equal use and it will last enough longer to more than pay for the extra composition.

It has been erroneously supposed by many that a flat or platen press wears the type less than a cylinder, but such is not the case. If a cylinder press is so constructed that the bed and cylinder travel together absolutely without slip or slur, the type will last 100 per cent longer on it than on a platen.

A poor, weak-nosed pair of tweezers will cause sad havoc amongst the type; better destroy them and do without if you can not afford a good pair. And here let me add that the form should always be loosened before attempting to correct with either tweezers, bodkin or rule.

Sometimes when type is new or filthy with ink and dirt it will stick so tenaciously that it can not be separated in the usual way between thumb and finger for distribution; the compositor bangs and thumps it on the stone until the bottom of the type is all battered, and when set up again it is likely to be as unsteady on its feet as a tramp printer full of gin. If type that sticks is soaked in soap suds the battering will be unnecessary. If dirty and gummed with ink, soak in hot soap suds.

I have seen many a form seriously injured by carelessly using a worn-out lye brush. It pays to provide a good lye brush. The cost is insignificant when compared with the damage an old, smooth-faced brush will do a form of type.

In the job department a hundred little demons combine to destroy the fragile and dainty faces of the artistic beauties in types, borders and rules which the indefatigable founders have produced. To avoid trespassing upon your time I will mention a few only of these destroying agents.

Did you ever notice how a new font of type is impressed into service, whether appropriate to the job in hand or not? It is new to the typo, and he thinks it must be proportionately appreciated by every customer. This not only wears out the type unnecessarily, but tires every one with its persistent appearance in and the sameness it imparts to every piece of work.

The abuse that the news type encounters is visited on job type with still greater vehemence. See that compositor distributing a line of script—the most costly type made. He throws the letters in the case with a vim that would be more appropriate pitching base ball. This destroys the delicate lines and each letter so damaged is beyond repair, and soon the font, which cost perhaps \$10 or \$20, or more, is ruined, not worn out. Give a man of that kind a dozen eggs to transfer from one basket to another and he will handle them with the greatest care, and yet a single letter of the type he bangs down so roughly is worth more than the whole dozen eggs.

The same remarks apply to the beautiful shaded letters, borders, ornaments, etc. (Of course the larger types receive most damage from this kind of treatment. Right here let me drop a word in favor of keeping large scripts and ornamental types and borders face upwards in the case. This plan will be found quite as easy for distributing, a great convenience in setting, and an immense saving to the face of the type.

Job forms are damaged or mashed by using too heavy an impression to commence with. Whether a form is put on a platen or cylinder, care should be exercised to start with less tympan than necessary, bringing up the impression by adding a sheet or two as required. A type form mashed is an injury to the entire plant, and is a constant annoyance so long as a letter of it remains in the office.

The brush for cleaning job type should be soft and pliable, and if benzine is used in a general way it is best to wash occasionally with lye and rinse thoroughly. Never allow any lye to remain on or between the type after washing.

A word on the abuse of leads and slugs. How often we see workmen, when distributing, pile the labor-saving leads, slugs and furniture up in a confused heap, then take them and tramp them on the stone endwise to even them up. This batters the ends and spreads them so that as a labor-saving article they soon become useless. A better method is to put away the leads and slugs in their order, but if one must throw them into great heaps they should be stowed away on a pile of wood shavings.

The old adage "familiarity breeds contempt," is as true of the printing office as elsewhere, and I have come to the conclusion that proprietors as well as employees of printing offices are guilty of a

great deal of abuse of the beautiful types and useful labor-saving materials and machinery which the genius of our times has perfected for their use and profit. Let the older heads here to-day look back a quarter of a century only and imagine, if they can, the delight the types of that time would have experienced over the wonderful advantages of the present. An occasional glance at the *then* will often fit us to better appreciate the *now*.

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C. E. Baxter, of the Charlotte Republican, read the following paper, prepared by his co-partner, Hon. D. B. Ainger, on

THE MISSION OF A COUNTRY NEWSPAPER.

If there is any question above another about which people entertain widely different opinions, it is as to the object, aims and mission of a country newspaper. Even we wise men who run them, who are quite generally supposed to and sometimes imagine we really do know everything, have quite variegated ideas upon the subject. I had on my exchange list once a newspaper that declared its mission to be to "uphold the right and denounce wrong." It was always a matter of great regret to us that this great moral engine died, for, in our limited experience, we have never known a larger contract than was thus voluntarily assumed. It displayed a heroism worthy of the days of Don Quixote. One can hardly imagine such a self-abnegating and valorous journalist accepting circus tickets, bartering the coin of his seething intellect for passes from monopolistic railroad vampires, and puffing third-class hotels in consideration for cold victuals. But we are generally deprived of the pleasure of adorning a tale or pointing a moral from the careers of these truly good newspapers because of their early demise. It is sad to note that the good are very liable to die young. Such newspapers are always quite sure that there is a "long felt want" and a "field" that they are called upon to fill. So far as we have observed it is generally the Potter's field that gets them.

But if you really want to ascertain the mission of the country newspaper the surest way to acquire misinformation is to consult the average subscriber. And he is the individual the wise and discreet editor will consult if he does not care to tempt fate and receive an order to "stop my paper." Horace Greeley and Wilber F. Storey may have had some general ideas as to the rules and principles that should govern in the conduct of a newspaper, but each of them was always blessed with unlimited numbers of subscribers that could "give him points" in the management of his journal. There is one serious trouble, however, in regard to consulting your average subscriber. He has too many conflicting ideas. He means well, but he does not harmonize with himself. Sometimes he wants the frauds and shams of society exposed and eradicated and sometimes he does not. It depends very largely upon whose ox is gored in the operation. These conflicting interests and divided counsels often make it very embarrassing for the inexperienced editor who would like to have his journal float with the tide of public opinion and meet the approval of all the wiseacres of the community. This it is that throws upon each individual editor the responsibility of determining for himself what the real mission of his journal shall be.

We judge that there is one proposition upon which all the great and good country editors who largely compose this intellectual association will agree, and that is that the supreme and paramount mission of a country newspaper is to provide a livelihood for its publisher and those dependent upon him. If, in addition to this, we can lay up treasures to be enjoyed in the great hereafter, acquire honor and fame, reform and correct the sins and foibles of the world it is clearly our mission to do so. These last come high, and it is not every country editor that can afford them.

It has never appeared to me to be any part of the mission of a country newspaper to run into the sensational and hunt up and publish vulgar scandals and neighborhood quarrels. A fellow with a grievance which he wants to air in print should always be held in special abhorrence. Next to the man or woman who wants to fill your columns with free advertising of a festival to raise money to buy paper collars for the heathens or publish the list of presents received by some unknown couple at a tin wedding, the man who wants to anonymously make reflections upon his neighbors is the most to be shunned and avoided.

Perhaps there is nothing more erroneous than the general impression that it is the mission of the country newspaper to furnish unlimited space gratuitously for all enterprises carried on in the name of religion or reform. And it is proverbial that the recipients of such favors are almost universally unappreciative. We recall an instance in which a lady complained quite vigorously because we had not given a long free notice of this character a better position. We directed her attention to a reading notice which appeared directly under hers for which a merchant had paid me ten cents a line, and was entirely satisfied with the position given him. My paper rarely goes to press that it does not contain half a column of these free notices, which are presented without so much as "I thank you," and as if it was supposed to be the special mission of the paper to disseminate this very interesting but

unprofitable class of information. I do not begrudge the space and am entirely willing to publish this class of matter to a reasonable extent, but it is far from being the mission of a newspaper to do so as a matter of course and without appreciation by those to whom the favor is granted.

It is at once the mission and the interest of the newspaper to aid and promote all enterprises calculated to advance the interest of the community in which it is published. But there is a limit to the burden that should be borne in this regard. It is sometimes very difficult to draw the line between public and private interests. Designing people juggle with the name of public welfare some times when it is really selfish motives that prompt them. Interested people may want a street opened, a public park purchased, manufacturing enterprises promoted, an opera-house constructed and selfish motives may alone prompt them, but in the name of public welfare and the material interests of the community they expect the local newspaper to spur public sentiment into action that profit may thereby accrue to the aforesaid interested individual. If the enterprise succeeds it never occurs to those benefited that the newspaper should be in any way recompensed for its trouble, labor and expense. Certainly not, for it will be argued that it is the mission of the press to promote public enterprises in its community. In the same spirit the local newspaper is expected to chronicle all improvements, new departures and enterprises of business houses and perhaps be rewarded by seeing the next order for job work sent to some snide city job office, where the cheapness of prices charged is more than offset by the character and quality of the stock and work. The newspaper is not expected to complain of this for in chronicling the item in relation to the business house it was only discharging its mission to publish the news.

A veteran editor was once asked what was the most difficult feature of conducting and publishing a newspaper. "Paying off the hands Saturday night," was the reply. I sometimes think that it never occurs to the great body of the people that an editor ever requires money. Experience persuades me that the reverse is generally the case, and that most editors are in a chronic state of need the greater part of the time. As a class we are rich only on the principle that time is money, and we have all the time there is. Fortunately it is no disgrace to be poor, although it is often very inconvenient.

Next to the individual who thirsts for free advertising probably the aspiring or covetous politician has the most mistaken conception of the mission of a country newspaper. This very necessary and influential element of society seems to entertain no doubt whatever that the special and peculiar mission of the local press is to make known his virtues to the world and create a public sentiment which will enable him to ride upon the wave of public favor to fame and fortune. Now the politician is a good fellow. We like him. People who impugn his motives and attack his character are usually prejudiced, envious and slanderous. Still, these good friends of ours make a great mistake in supposing that the local newspaper was created especially for their benefit. Leastwise not to such an extent that there should be no sense of obligation and appreciation for courtesies and favors shown, as too many seem to imagine.

But it is the editor who has the mistaken idea that his newspaper is a weapon with which to vent his piques, traduce his neighbors and punish his enemies who has the most lamentable misconception of the mission of a newspaper. His error is utterly vicious and despicable. It is a spirit that can only spring from a vulgar mind and a cowardly nature. The French have a saying, *noblesse oblige*—rank impresses duty—which the average editor should paste in his hat. Our relation to the public impresses a duty to preserve our journals free from offensive personalities, pure in language and elevating in tone and sentiment. The country newspaper is essentially the paper of the ladies and children. They naturally take more interest in the local news and gossip than men, because they have to depend on the press to a larger degree than the sterner sex for information of local happenings. An editor will not fail to take this into consideration if he wishes his journal to fill its true and best mission in the closest possible degree. It hardly needs to be added that a newspaper imbued with this sense of its mission will not be teeming with billingsgate, vulgarity, slang and epithets towards rival newspapers and political or personal opponents.

Times and conditions change, and newspapers have to keep pace with their surroundings. The newspaper of fifty years ago, yes, of twenty-five years ago, and that of to-day are two very different institutions. The country newspaper man of fifty years ago aspired to be a "literary feller," wore his hair long and unkempt and wrote long and learned editorials upon profound and obtuse subjects. The country editor of to-day is a business man, wears his hair and editorials short, and is a success in proportion as he has snap, push and business capacity in him. Brevity, conciseness, incisiveness—quality not quantity—is now the rule in all well regulated newspapers. And the mission is to occupy the field—publish all the news and reflect the daily life of the community in which your lot is cast. If a small village, cover it. If a large city, cover it. If a county, cover it. Do this thoroughly and well and there will be no need to fear old or new rivals.

An eminent writer epigrammatically defines the office of a good newspaper as being "to represent

well the interests of its time." Concisely this portrays the highest possible attainment of the greatest of journals. Equally is it true that the highest mission of a country newspaper is to represent faithfully the interests of its locality and to reflect the enterprising public spirit, purest thought, broadest culture and most enlightened conscience of its constituency.

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A number of questions of practical interest to newspaper-makers were found in the "Hell-Box," and were quite generally discussed in two-minute speeches, constituting a very interesting impromptu exercise.

Samuel F. Cook read the following paper, prepared by Wm. Van Buren, of the Lansing Republican, upon

THE PRESS AS AN EDUCATOR.

Many and wonderful as are the triumphs of science and the arts in our 19th century civilization, not one of them is in itself of the importance, or wields so powerful an influence over the destinies and happiness of the world, as the press. It brings to our doors the profoundest truths of philosophy, the subtlest essence of thought, the flowers of poetry and eloquence, and in all the treasures of knowledge accumulated by the explorer, the traveler and scholar, we are made participants by this powerful dispenser of blessings, which has created a new social, moral and intellectual world, and brought joy and happiness to millions of homes.

When, four centuries ago, in a little room in the old town of Mentz, Gutenberg, Faust and Schoeffer so carefully guarded the infant art from the gaze and knowledge of the world, they could not have dreamed how quickly it would escape from its swaddling clothes and how rapidly it would grow into a mighty, conquering giant, revolutionizing human ideas, scattering the sunbeams of enlightenment and liberty broadcast throughout the world, and hunting the demons of ignorance, superstition, bigotry and despotism from every corner of the earth.

Had Archimedes, who, ages ago, delved deep into the lore of ancient Greece, seeking the lever to move the world, lived in these later centuries, he would have needed no talismanic power to tell him where and what it was. For, verily, the lever of the press moves the world to its uttermost parts. Its power equips the missionary for his labors among the children of darkness, it hurls the anathemas of the people upon wrong doers in high places, it lifts the child of genius to the starry heights of fame, and holds the cup of inspiration to the lips of student and philosopher. It is the torch of hope to millions of patient toilers, to the philanthropist, the sage and the patriot, and the sword of Damocles to the criminal, the impostor and the oppressor. The lightnings of heaven are its servants, bringing to it messages from every portion of the habitable globe, and ere the morning dawns it sends them forth to instruct and edify the people. It does not make its habitation alone in the great metropolis, behind brick walls and imposing granite fronts, but wherever a stake is set in the wilderness for the future town, its "types" and "forms" appear, and its "columns" are builded with as much enthusiasm in the structure of logs as in the stately edifice of the city. It builds its blazing watch-fires along the level lands of patient and earnest endeavor, as well as on the light-crowned mountains of victory, and its sentinels keep tireless vigil in the interests of the great commonwealth of humanity, showing the people the war-cloud in the distance and the tower of defense at hand.

It imbues the dull with enthusiasm and the weak with courage, and cheers on the brave and dauntless spirits that go forth into the conflict of life with high hopes and grand resolves. Its type and ink are hailstones on the heads of tyrants, and oil for the eyes of ignorance. It upholds the hands of him who preaches the gospel of equal rights, and launches contempt upon the snob and parvenu aristocrat.

But while bringing messages from the stars and lore from the depths, it does not forget immediate surroundings, and the little incidents of life, which, although not requiring the greatest mental calibre to understand, are of vital importance to all denizens of this sublunary sphere. Not Argus of old, with his hundred eyes, ever kept so sharp watch over the affairs of mortals as the genius of the press. The same types that were made to repeat the efforts of the most popular orator of the day, will also give the condition of crops around the world, from Japan to California; the number of acres of potatoes put in by Farmer A, and the amount of wheat Farmer B. expects to harvest; the ravages of the curculio in the plum orchards, with numerous methods for preventing them; the exact amount of injury done by last night's frost to the strawberry crop, and the varieties which suffered the least; who is visiting at Mrs. D.'s and where Mrs. E. has gone to spend a few weeks; the number of thousand pieces in Mrs. F.'s quilt (with perhaps the fitting suggestion that she might have spent her time to greater advantage); and all the thousand and one things that make up ordinary life, many of them as marvelous in reality as the tales of the Arabian Nights, are industriously gathered together and presented, generally with the most surprising accuracy.

Especially is the country newspaper an important educational factor in the community it serves. The little village that is stupid and sleepy will wake up as soon as a printing press is set down in its midst, and harmless rivalries will spring up among the heretofore quiet people, which will soon develop into enterprises of importance. Though the country editor may not always himself acquire either wealth or fame, he invariably holds the ladder by which others climb to the heights where the best prizes in life are found.

Many a prominent man in politics, business and literature owes his position to the local newspaper which first brought him out, and showed to his friends and neighbors talents which they never dreamed that he possessed. Some of these greatly benefited ones are not particularly grateful for the favors received, and occasionally one has been known to attempt to kick down the ladder by which he rose, and bruised his toes considerably in the attempt. But ingratitude is often the reward for good works, and the brethren of the press are not the only ones who receive it.

The antiquarian puzzles over the crumbling and faded manuscripts of ancient sages and historians for his records of the elder days of the world, but the historian of the future can turn over the files of old newspapers, magazines and almanacs, and give his readers a faithful picture of every day the world has known since the press became the popular voice of the people. It gives in the daily paper a true mirror of events—a kaleidoscopic view, as it were, of the days as they pass over the highway of time and down the slope of the ages. High and low, rich and poor, the wise and the simple, alike find mental pabulum and entertainment in its pages.

The by-ways of London and Rome, of Jerusalem and Honolulu, are almost as familiar as the streets of our native town; the churches, the art galleries, the public buildings, the pleasure resorts of the old world cities, the redwood forests of California, and the jungles of India are all alike pictured to our senses.

The intrigues and quarrels of royalty, foreign diplomacy, the intellectual capacity and personal appearance of the princes and princesses and high officials of kingdoms and empires are made matters of every day interest, and are discussed in the same spirit of good comradeship as the affairs of our next door neighbor.

We can see the color of the skies over the warm Italian valleys, and the vineyards of the Rhineland; we can almost analyze the flowers of the Alpine heights, and are as familiar with faces of the great St. Bernard dog as of our own pet Newfoundland.

But leaving the realms of the arts and sciences, of history, literature, and travels, and coming home to every-day life, let us see how printing as a profession affects those directly connected with it. That the trade of a printer is a most valuable and intellectual discipline, the long roll of brilliant names in the annals of journalism, the owners of which started in life as printers' apprentices, working for their board, or later receiving perhaps the munificent sum of fifty cents per week, would seem to be sufficient. Many of these have amassed wealth, and all have wielded an influence in the affairs of their fellow men hardly second to that of the most powerful potentates of the world. Of course all who follow "stick and rule" can not become wealthy and famous; but all, unless hindered by misfortune or sickness, may attain at least a modest competence, and become self-respecting and respected members of the great brotherhood of humanity. The lad who for the first time takes his place in the composing room, and handles the little bits of metal which have given us the treasures of the ages, starts at the foot of a ladder by whose rounds he may rise to almost any height he wills, within the scope of his natural talents and abilities. But the boy or man who enters the printing business with no love or appreciation of its grand possibilities; who, instead of seeking to do all he can to further the interests of his employer, and so add to his own knowledge and usefulness, strives to see how little he can do during the hours of labor, and how much he can shirk; who watches the clock more closely than the progress of his task, for fear that he will not be ready to step from the outside door the moment that the noon hour arrives; complains that his wages are not raised often enough, or that he is not rapidly enough promoted, can not expect to win the crown of success won by those who ever earnestly seek the best.

Energy, industry and perseverance are the architects that have formed all the truly grand and noble lives that have enriched the world with the fruits of their toil, and these attributes may always safely be depended on as the winning cards in the race of life.

To use a thoroughly American expression, "it pays" to be "diligent in well doing," if not always in dollars and cents, in our own added self-respect, and the discipline of mind and character derived from such diligence. To be sure there are some employers who, like nations, are ungrateful, and who if they appreciate do not properly requite their employees, but true worth does not often have to go begging, and some one will be sure to discover the prize that another passes by. The ring of the true metal is nearly always recognized, and never sooner than within the walls of a printing house.

It has well been said that there is no royal road to learning; neither is there to success of any

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

kind; on the contrary, the way is rough and rocky, and oftentimes thorns will pierce both hands and heart; nevertheless, he who turns aside from the hot, dusty highway of steady toil into the flower-lined by-ways of ease is surely lost.

If every young printer and aspiring journalist who desires to rank high in his profession would follow in the footsteps of the great founder of the craft in America, Ben Franklin, and take into his heart and life the maxims he puts into the mouth of "poor Richard," he can hardly fail of success.

And let us all hope that some time in the near future, by the united efforts of the craft in disseminating knowledge and the principles of truth and justice it may be truly said that "the shooting stick of the printer has rendered obsolete the shooting iron of the soldier."

Then followed the press song, composed expressly for the occasion by Major J. W. Long, of the Mt. Pleasant Times, and sung to the tune of "Marching Through Georgia," by Miss Jennie Osterhout, Mrs. Fred Slocum, Mrs. J. W. Long and Messrs. Kelley, Long and Strong.

Ren. Barker, of the Reed City Clarion, rendered a double bone solo and Jas. L. Lee a pathetic recitation

R. L. Warren, of the Albion Recorder, offered the following:

WHEREAS, A dispatch has been received by this Association from officials of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, setting forth that the pass issued to Frank Town, of the Lansing Sun, has been offered for sale in the market, therefore

Resolved, That the Michigan Press Association condemns this breach of good faith, which would bring disrepute upon the profession of journalism, and abuse the kindly consideration which the railroads of the state have manifested toward the Association.

Resolved, That the application of the said Town for membership in this Association be returned and that membership in the Association be refused, unless it can be made clear that the pass found its way upon the market without his knowledge.

Half a dozen gentlemen jumped to their feet in support of the resolution, and in the discussion that ensued the recreant Town was denounced in unmeasured terms. One member lifted up his voice in Town's behalf, but the torrent of just condemnation was too strong to be turned, and the motion prevailed unanimously.

W. P. Nisbett, of the Big Rapids Herald moved that in case the executive committee find the charge against Town not sustained, then it shall be the duty of the Secretary to omit the publication of the foregoing resolution in the minutes of proceedings.* The motion prevailed.

Robert Smith, of the Gratiot County Journal, moved that the President be instructed to telegraph General Passenger Agent Lockwood the action of the convention in regard to Town. The motion prevailed.

Upon motion the convention adjourned.

THE PETOSKEY MEETING.

On Wednesday, July 8th, at 8:30 p. m., the Association was again called to order, in the hall of the Arlington House, by President Hampton.

The committee on location of next meeting reported through its chairman, Mr. Warren, as follows:

The committee appointed to report places of meeting would respectfully submit that but one place has been brought to the attention of the committee and that was Coldwater. Your committee would therefore unanimously recommend that the next meeting be held at the city of Coldwater.

Upon motion the report was accepted and adopted.

The committee upon nomination of officers for the ensuing year reported through its chairman, Mr. Finn, as follows:

For President—A. J. Aldrich, of the Coldwater Republican.

For Secretary—J. W. Fitzgerald, of the Ovid Union.

For Treasurer—Robert Smith, of the Ithaca Journal.

For Vice Presidents—Franklin Moore, of the St. Clair Republican, J. T. Minchin, of the Ewart Review, and O. W. Rowland, of the Paw Paw Northerner.

Upon motion the report of the committee was accepted and adopted.

R. L. Warren, of the Albion Recorder, offered the following:

Resolved, That a committee of three, of which T. S. Applegate shall be chairman, be appointed to act with a similar committee of the Western Michigan Press Association, to procure a suitable badge to present to Hon. Perry Hannah, and memorials for Messrs. Hughart, Lockwood and Fitzgerald, of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, and Messrs. Keeler, Edwards and Potter, of the Flint & Pere

* It appears that immediately after procuring passes to attend the associational meeting Town's connection with the Lansing Sun was absolved. The proprietors of the Sun feel that Town was the means of bringing their good name into contempt before the Association and denounce him in these words: "Mr. Town is a dead beat of the worst type, and is entitled to no consideration whatever, in any capacity, neither as representative of the Sun, nor as a member of the fraternity."

Marquette Railroad, in recognition of the great services rendered by them in promoting the welfare of the meeting of the Association the present year, and that the sum of fifty cents per member be raised to defray the expense thereof.

V. J. Tefft, of the Mason News, moved to amend the resolution by inserting the sum of one dollar in place of fifty cents.

A. McMillan, of the Bay City Press, moved as a substitute to Mr. Tefft's amendment, that the resolution should remain as introduced, but that those who desired to contribute one dollar should be permitted and invited to do so. The substitute prevailed.

Upon motion the resolution was accepted and adopted, and the President appointed Messrs. T. S. Applegate, R. L. Warren and A. McMillan as such committee.

W. P. Nisbett, of the Big Rapids Herald, offered the following:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Michigan Press Association be instructed to write to all who increase passes and did not pay their fees, requesting them to remit the same, and those who fail to do so shall not be furnished transportation next year.

Upon motion the resolution was accepted and adopted.

Otis Fuller, of the St. John's Republican, offered the following:

Resolved, That the thanks of the newspaper fraternity of Michigan be tendered Hon. L. M. Sellers and Hon. Chas. S. Hampton for their able and successful work in the interest of Michigan newspapers during the last session of the legislature, and also for their highly satisfactory work in arranging the details of the greatest newspaper gathering Michigan has ever seen.

Upon motion the resolution was accepted and adopted by a rising vote.

J. H. Dennis, of the Hastings Journal, moved that the paper prepared by Geo. M. Dewey, of the Owosso Times, to be read before this Association, be printed in the minutes of the proceedings. The motion prevailed.*

A. McMillan, of the Bay City Press, offered the following:

The ladies of the State and Western Michigan Press Associations, a noble band of women, who increase our joys and divide our responsibilities; worthy to cradle in their faithful arms the future of the Association and warm it with their abounding love; may their joys never diminish nor their responsibilities increase, and may they linger long to gladden us with their presence and inspire us with their virtues and their smiles.

The President called upon Hon. Jas. W. Hine, of the Lowell Journal, to respond to the tribute, which he did in a graceful and talented manner.

Geo. F. Lewis, of the Saginaw Saginawian, offered the following:

Resolved, That at future meetings of this Association not more than two passes will be furnished for each newspaper, and no gentleman shall be furnished passes who is not either an active or honorary member of this Association and has paid his yearly fee in advance.

Mr. McMillan moved that the resolution be referred to the executive committee, which motion prevailed.

D. P. Sagendorph, of the Charlotte Prohibitionist, offered the following:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, whose duty it shall be to take into consideration the existing laws relating to the newspaper business, to report at our next annual meeting our rights and duties in relation to the same, and to also suggest any needed legislation to benefit ourselves and protect the public in the newspaper publishing business.

Upon motion the resolution was referred to the legislative committee and the committee increased by the addition of Mr. Sagendorph's name.

Secretary Strong and Treasurer Slocum having been appointed a committee to take up a collection for the memorial badges reported having raised about \$50. (A meeting of the Western Michigan Association held immediately afterward increased the fund to \$75.)

The committee upon resolutions asked for further time in which to make their report. Upon motion their request was granted. The joint committee subsequently reported as follows:

WHEREAS, The Michigan State Press Association and the Western Michigan Press Association have held a joint session at Traverse City, beginning July 6, 1885, and

WHEREAS, The occasion has been one of unalloyed pleasure to all of us, and of great individual benefit, therefore the task has been delegated to the undersigned to express, as adequately as we may, our obligations to those through whose great kindness and courtesy we were enabled to have so thoroughly enjoyable an experience.

Resolved, That we return our thanks to the managers of the several railroads of Michigan for extending to us the privilege of free passes over their lines, and for embracing, (in the passes), our wives, children, sisters and other fellows' sisters.

Resolved, That inasmuch as the Flint & Pere Marquette and the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railway Companies extended to us the privilege of special trains, we owe special thanks to the management of those roads; to Assistant General Manager D. Edwards and Superintendent H. C. Potter, Jr., of the first-named road, and to President W. O. Hughart, General Passenger Agent C. L. Lockwood, and Master of Transportation E. Fitzgerald, of the latter road, we are under special obligations for rare attention to our comfort, giving our trains their particular care and personal supervision; and while

* Not being able to procure the MS. the paper is necessarily omitted.

returning thanks for the kindness of these gentlemen, we assure them that each member of these Associations will ever hold them in grateful remembrance.

Resolved, That we being ever grateful for courtesies extended by citizens in various parts of the state, but never more so than to the citizens of Traverse City, in which the annual meeting of the Association convened this year, and as a token of appreciation extend our most heartfelt thanks to the citizens of Traverse City, for the grand entertainment extended, which has equaled anything of the kind in the history of this Association.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Association that the entertainment received at the hands of Hannah, Lay & Co. be indelibly written upon the tablets of our memories, that time never may efface.

Resolved, That thanks be more especially tendered to Hannah, Lay & Co for the unexpected and elegant entertainment at their fine hotel, the Park Place, and where our money would not pass current; also for the gratuitous use of their fine steamers for an excursion to Charlevoix and other points. Further be it

Resolved, That in the hearty welcome which the citizens of Charlevoix prepared for the Association, we recognize the same good will and generous disposition which has met us at every hand; that we extend our thanks for their kind hospitality, and express our regret that the shortness of time prevented us from enjoying all the pleasant drives and side excursions that they had so liberally arranged.

Resolved, That to the citizens of Petoskey we extend our thanks for their cordial reception; for the use of the Arlington Hotel Hall for our meeting, and for the elegant repast served on the occasion of our complimentary hop, so kindly extended to us.

Resolved, That our thanks are due to the citizens of Harbor Springs for the cordial reception given to our party, and the chance to see all the lovely scenery surrounding their beautiful village. We will have a lasting remembrance of the village, not only on account of its natural beauties, but also as being the earthly tabernacle of the irrepressible, tireless, accommodating, indefatigable, eloquent, always-extemporaneously-ready, ubiquitous, and popular Charles S. Hampton, to whom with Hon. L. M. Sellers, we owe so much of the general happy features of this excursion.

Resolved, That to the members of Harbor Point Resort Association we tender our thanks for the elegant entertainment given us. We wish to have them understand that we Harbor towards them the most grateful feelings, and will point with pride to this pleasant feature of our excursion. As we Traverse our way to our homes we will think of this occasion with full hearts.

Resolved, That to one, and all, who have contributed to the unalloyed and continuous enjoyment of this excursion, we hereby tender our grateful acknowledgements for favors received, and now that the trip is over, and the time has arrived for us to disperse, we pledge ourselves, our fortunes, and our sacred honors, to always be in readiness to accept any invitation to visit all of the citizens of this section of our state again whenever they telephone us; this section so favored by Providence and beautified by nature, where the health-giving breezes come fresh from the kisses of the water, bringing to the tired-out worker a new lease of a hopeful future.

W. A. LANE,	} Com.
J. W. FITZGERALD,	
TOM. S. APPELGATE,	
J. W. LONG,	
A. J. ALDRICH,	
WM. P. NISBETT,	

A. McMillan, of the Bay City Press, moved that as a slight recognition of the many courtesies extended this Association by the Hon. Perry Hannah, of Traverse City, that he be made an honorary member of the Michigan Press Association. The motion prevailed.

Upon motion the Association adjourned *sine die*.

HISTORICAL.

The Michigan Press Association was organized as the Michigan Publishers' Association, at Jackson, January 23, 1868, with twenty-four members. E. B. Pond, of the Ann Arbor Argus, President; Jas. O'Donnell, of the Jackson Citizen, Secretary; T. S. Applegate, of the Adrian Times, Treasurer.

The second annual meeting was held at Lansing, January 28, 1869, with thirty-four members present.

The third annual meeting was held at Adrian, June 8, 1869, with twenty-six members present.

The fourth annual meeting was held at Kalamazoo, June 14, 1870, with twenty-six members present.

The fifth annual meeting was held at Bay City, July 18, 1871, with twenty-nine members present.

The sixth annual meeting was held at Grand Rapids, September 20, 1872, with seventeen members present.

The seventh annual meeting was held at Detroit, June 17, 1873, with forty-nine members present. At this meeting the name of the Association was changed to the Michigan Press Association.

A special meeting was held at Lansing, February 17, 1874, to petition congress for the restoration of the free delivery of weekly newspapers in the county where published.

The eighth annual meeting was held at East Saginaw, August 11, 1874; no record of the members in attendance.

The ninth annual meeting was held at Lansing, February 9, 1875, with ten members present.

On August 17, 1875, upon invitation, twenty-six members of the Association "took in" the legislative excursion to the upper peninsula.

The tenth annual meeting was held at Lansing, February 8, 1876, with seventeen members present.

There was no meeting in 1877.

The eleventh annual meeting was held at Detroit, September 19, 1878, with twenty members present.

The twelfth annual meeting was held at Lansing, January 7, 1879, with thirty-three members present.

The thirteenth annual meeting was held at Ann Arbor, January 27, 1880, with sixty-eight members present.

The fourteenth annual meeting was held at Lansing, January 11, 1881, with seventy members present.

The fifteenth annual meeting was held at Lansing, March 15, 1882, with twenty-eight members present.

The sixteenth annual meeting was held at Detroit, March 29, 1883, with thirty-six members present.

The seventeenth annual meeting was held at Bay City, June 24 and 25, 1884, with ninety members present. This meeting accepting the courteous invitation of the Michigan Central and Detroit, Mackinac & Marquette railroads, enjoyed a pleasant excursion to Mackinac and Marquette—180 persons participating in the same.

The eighteenth annual meeting was held at Traverse City, July 7, 1885, with one hundred and fifty-two members present. Delightful excursion; continuous picnic.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The following is a transcript of the Treasurer's account with the Association from the date of his accession to office in 1883, to the close of his terms of office in 1885:

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION, IN ACCOUNT WITH FRED SLOCUM, TREASURER.

CR.

1883. April 1.	Received from dues.....	\$ 30 00
1884. June 25.	Received from dues.....	85 00
1885. July 9.	Received from dues.....	151 00
		<u>\$266 00</u>

DR.

1883. April 1.	Paid approved bill of J. E. Scripps.....	\$ 17 17
1884. June 25.	Paid approved bill of Orno Strong.....	48 85
	Paid approved bill of A. McMillan.....	2 50
1885. July 9.	Paid approved bill of Orno Strong.....	74 50
	Paid approved bill of C. S. Hampton.....	11 00
	Paid approved bill of L. E. Rowley.....	5 00
	Balance on hand.....	<u>106 98</u>
		<u>\$266 00</u>

IN MEMORIAM.

To the Officers and Members of the Michigan Press Association:

We, your committee, which was appointed to draft resolutions with reference to the death of our late members, Ward Ingersoll of the Corunna Journal, and C. W. Clough of the Brooklyn Exponent, beg leave to report that they have performed that duty and submit the following resolutions, and ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the matter:

WHEREAS, Since our last meeting death has overtaken and removed from among us our worthy fellow-members, Ward Ingersoll, of the Corunna Journal, and C. W. Clough, of the Brooklyn Exponent, and

WHEREAS, In their untimely demise we feel deeply such loss, because of their absence from our meetings; and although absent we know that their example will live and their influence ever remain with us, therefore be it

Resolved, That the earnest sympathy of the members of the Michigan Press Association be and it is hereby tendered the bereaved families of our departed brothers, with the sincere hope that in the recollection of their many virtues they may, in a measure, be comforted; and be it further

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon the records of this Association, and that the Secretary take the usual steps in connection therewith.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Dated Traverse City, Mich., July 7, 1885.

FRED SLOCUM,
WM. P. NISBETT, } Com.
JAS. W. HINE,

THE WESTERN MICHIGAN PRESS MEETING.

The Western Michigan Press Association was organized as the Northwestern Michigan Press Association six years ago, but it enjoyed such a prosperous growth that at its 1882 meeting it was deemed expedient to extend its territory to include the western half of the state and change its name to the "Western Michigan Press Association," which name it has since retained. The Traverse City gathering was its fifth annual meeting and the most successful one held since the organization of the society. Seventy persons were enrolled as members for the present year.

The executive officers were: President, Hon. L. M. Sellers of the Cedar Springs Clipper; Secretary, Hon. C. S. Hampton of the Harbor Springs Independent; Treasurer, Wm. P. Nisbett of the Big Rapids Herald. These gentlemen filled their respective offices of trust with grace, dignity and "in a workmanlike manner."

The Association held one session Monday evening, two on Tuesday, and still another at Petoskey.

Various committees were appointed as follows:

On joint resolutions: Messrs. J. W. Long of the Mt. Pleasant Times, A. J. Aldrich of the Coldwater Republican, and W. P. Nisbett of the Big Rapids Herald.

On nomination of officers: Messrs. H. Potts of the Grand Haven Courier-Journal, L. S. Russell of the Bangor Advance, E. L. Sprague of the Traverse City Eagle, H. M. Rose of the Grand Rapids Telegram, and A. T. Ryan of the Allegan Democrat.

On legislative matters: Hon. J. W. Hine of the Lowell Journal, W. P. Nisbett of the Big Rapids Herald, and L. S. Russell of the Bangor Advance.

Memorial committee: Messrs. Jas. W. Hine of the Lowell Journal, Robert Smith of the Ithaca Journal, and J. W. Fitzgerald of the Ovid Union.

The papers read before the Association were of practical interest to the fraternity, were listened to with attention and generally discussed.

Ed. E. Smith of the Howard City Record, read a pointed paper, entitled, "C. O. D.;" Geo. W. Buckley of Battle Creek, rendered an able paper on "The Duty of an Editor;" Maj. J. W. Long of the Mt. Pleasant Times, a practical every-day argument on the "Rules of Display;" Hiram Potts of the Grand Haven Courier-Journal, a droll, witty dissertation on "Pen, Ink and Paste Pot;" and J. Mason Reynolds of Grand Rapids, recited a characteristic poem, entitled, "Knights of the Quill."

At the Petoskey meeting the committee on nomination of officers reported in favor of re-electing the old officers for another term, which was accordingly done. The list is as follows:

President—L. M. Sellers, Cedar Springs Clipper.

Vice President—Maj. J. W. Long, Mt. Pleasant Times.

Secretary—C. S. Hampton, Harbor Springs Independent.

Treasurer—W. P. Nisbett, Big Rapids Herald.

Additional members executive committee—Maj. J. W. Long, Mt. Pleasant Times, L. J. Merchant, St. Joseph Traveler and Herald.

Location of next meeting left to executive committee.

The constitution was changed so that hereafter none but bona fide newspaper men will be admitted as members.

PRESS SONG.

[Written in a fit of inspiration by Major J. W. Long, of the Mt. Pleasant Times.]

Sound the grand old bugle, boys, we'll sing another song;
Sing it with a spirit that will move the world along;
Sing it with a hope that it will make us mighty strong,
As we go marching, marching onward.

CHORUS—

Hurrah! We love our uncles and our aunts;
Hurrah! For wealth each editor now pants;
And when he dreams at all, it's of subscription in advance,
As we go marching, marching onward.

Since last we met we've seen a lot of "pl" in awful state,
But when we take our yearly trip, with joyous thoughts elate,
We clean up shop, for all the "pie" the editor will ate,
As we go marching, marching onward.

And when the future comes, (we hope 'twill be a grand event),
We'll tell our children of the happy hours that here we've spent,
And if an editor can pray, we'll ask a blessing sent,
Where we went marching, marching onward.

And now we'll sing to worthy hosts, who've treated us so well,
For rhyme and reason all combine of gratitude to tell;
They've helped us all to understand we've cut a heavy swell,
As we go marching, marching onward.

To Hannah, Lay & Co. we hand the broom of conquest o'er,
They've given not only shelter, but have carpeted the floor;
They're known through all the land as hosts who keep an open door,
As we go marching, marching onward.

Our homage now we pay to all the ladies who are here,
We want them all to know that to us they are awful dear;
God bless their darling hearts, they give ten smiles for every tear,
As we go marching, marching onward.

To Traverse's good citizens each one extends their thanks,
They promised board; they've given more; just three inch rosewood planks;
They've made us like depositors in million dollar banks,
As we go marching, marching onward.

To our good friends in Charlevoix we sing in voices clear;
Your welcome grand has drawn you to our hearts forever near,
We'll come some time, and bring our friends, and stay with you a year,
As we go marching, marching onward.

Petoskey, lying on the bay, so beautiful and bright,
Has shown that hearts, like nature, can the world illumine with light;
And fairy lands and fairy scenes have opened to our sight,
As we go marching, marching onward.

And now to all we say good-bye, with grateful sentiments,
Ere long at home, in sanctum dull, we'll pitch our doleful tents;
To wrestle once more in the strife of dollars and of cents,
As we go marching, marching onward.

THE EXCURSION.

EN ROUTE.

As the liberal and enterprising managers of the Grand Rapids & Indiana and Flint & Pere Marquette railroads had placed at the exclusive disposal of the members of the two Associations and their ladies, special trains, the excursion may have been said, properly speaking, to have begun at Monroe and Grand Rapids. The F. & P. M. special, accompanied by Messrs. D. Edwards, Assistant General Manager, and H. C. Potter, Jr., Superintendent of the road, left Monroe at about 7 a. m., Monday, with a goodly number of editors aboard, to which accessions were made at every railroad crossing and town of importance. The G. R. & I. special steamed out of Grand Rapids with Mr. E. Fitzgerald, Master of Transportation, as mine host, and upwards of one hundred and fifty happy excursionists aboard. These trains were made up of the neatest, handsomest coaches in the service; the weather was propitious, a refreshing rain early in the day having cooled the atmosphere, laid the dust and made traveling a pleasure; there was ample opportunity for the renewal of old friendships and the forming of new acquaintances; everybody was cordial and witty; a general feeling of happiness prevailed; time—beguiled in various ways that buoyant spirits can devise—passed only too swiftly, and the journey was one continual picnic from start to finish.

The G. R. & I. special of seven magnificent coaches arrived at Reed City about 4 o'clock, p. m., where it "took on" the guests of the F. & P. M. special, and then steamed on its way northward with a delightful company, now increased to 325 persons.

At Walton Junction we were met by a press committee from Traverse City, composed of Hon. Thos. T. Bates of the Herald, E. L. Sprague of the Eagle, E. L. Faulkner of the Journal, and Ben Davis of the Elk Rapids Progress. The branch railroad from Walton to Traverse City, twenty-six miles long, was, we understand, constructed by Messrs. Hannah, Lay & Co. and turned over to the G. R. & I. railroad company with the simple requirement that it run regular trains into Traverse City.

AT TRAVERSE CITY.

As our special came to a stand-still at the neat, trim depot, about 7 o'clock, p. m., inspiring music was wafted in rich cadences to our ears, giving auricular evidence that a courteous welcome awaited us. Upon alighting from the cars we beheld the Boys Band of Traverse City, in their bright uniforms, tooting a welcome from their glistening horns, a reception committee, headed by Hon. Perry Hannah, and various journalistic brethren who had arrived previously. Without "fuss" or delay we were immediately escorted to the magnificent Park Place hotel, managed by that prince of landlords, Col. Billings. The "big village" had donned its holiday attire of evergreen and bunting and presented an inviting appearance. The Park Place will accommodate 250 guests—we number over 400—yet with little delay and no friction are we admirably provided for; in fact, the expeditious manner in which our monstrous delegation was handled was simply marvelous. Everybody took tea at the Park

Place, and although the tables had to be set three times, the elaborate menu did not appear to diminish one whit—there was no hustling of things or hurrying of persons, and the meal consumed no more time than is usually taken for a meal in the average cosmopolitan hotel. By the time the meal was over every person had been assigned comfortable quarters, either at the Park Place, Hannah, Lay & Co.'s steamer "City of Traverse"—which was held in port for that purpose,—the Occidental, Locust Grove or Bay House.

Traverse City is a charming place of about 4,000 population. The city, mainly, is situated on a slightly elevated plateau, bounded on one side by Boardman Lake and its winding, sparkling river, and on the other by the west arm of the famous Traverse Bay. It is the seat of government of Grand Traverse county; it has well-graded, shady streets, palatial public and business buildings, and beautiful residences; it is surrounded by a fertile country, having the best roads in Northern Michigan; its climate is exceptionally healthy, and being peopled by an industrious, enterprising and progressive class of citizens, is ever bound to rank as the metropolis of North-Western Michigan. Here is located the Northern Asylum for the Insane, now approaching completion. It is built of white brick, manufactured near the city, is three stories high, exclusive of basement, over 1,000 feet long, and is one of the finest of our state buildings. When the state commissioners chose Traverse City as the location for the Northern Asylum they chose wisely. The pure, fresh air that sweeps from the bay over this favored spot can not fail to bring back memory and restore to health the unfortunate creatures who are here cared for.

Traverse City is not only noted for its beautiful situation and other advantages, briefly referred to above, but for the liberal patronage bestowed upon its press, which consists of the Herald, published by Hon. Thos. T. Bates; the Eagle, published by E. L. Sprague, and the Journal, published by E. L. Faulkner.

For what Traverse City is to-day she is indebted to Messrs. Hannah, Lay & Co., her founders. This firm's hand leads in everything that has as its object the upbuilding of the town or country. The firm own and operate a mammoth saw mill, a complete roller-process flouring mill, planing mill, shingle mill, the Park Place hotel, a bank, and three steam propellers, viz: "City of Traverse," "City of Grand Rapids," and "T. S. Faxton," which ply the waters between the city, Chicago and Petoskey. The Hannah & Lay mercantile company are the second largest general dealers in the world, and do business in a magnificent, three story brick block of seven stores, with a floor room of nearly two acres.

The arduous task of entertaining the four hundred-odd editorial excursionists was managed by Hon. Perry Hannah, and we doubt if there are many men in Michigan who could have handled the immense affair as handsomely as he did. From early morn till late at night Mr. Hannah was here, there and everywhere; ever calm and anxious to serve the quill-drivers, whether it be in the capacity of host, historian or baby-tender. Everywhere did latch strings generously repose on the outside—money wouldn't pass current. The turn-outs of the various livery stables, with entertaining and talkative drivers, were placed at the command of the guests, and the interim between press sessions was employed in driving about the village, out to Judge Ramsdell's famous fruit farm and other places of interest, boating and sight-seeing generally.

Tuesday evening an informal reception, Hon. Thos. T. Bates presiding, was held in the parlors of the Park Place. The evening was chiefly devoted to hand-shaking and getting further acquainted not only with each other but the good people of Traverse City, who had done so much to make our stay with them happy and enjoyable. Several songs were rendered, by both entertainers and entertained, a couple of recitations given by Mrs. Adelaide Hicks, a New York elocutionist, and the Boys Band, seated upon a band-stand in front of the hotel, discoursed delightful music at frequent intervals. From the broad balcony of the hotel were proposed three cheers each for Perry Hannah, Traverse City, and the Boys Band, and they were given with hearty good will.

Wednesday morning we bid Traverse City a reluctant good-by. The entertainment given and uniform courtesies extended us were so unreservedly hearty and sincere that we will ever cherish pleasing recollections of her and her fortunate people.

ON GRAND TRAVERSE BAY.

Aurora never smiled more graciously than she did on the morning of July 8th. Promptly at 8 o'clock the entire editorial party, with but few exceptions, were aboard the magnificent steamers, "City of Traverse," "City of Grand Rapids," and "T. S. Faxton," all of which were held by Hon. Perry Hannah, with his characteristic liberality—which ever tends towards his pocket-book—expressly for this excursion, for, said he, "I want my guests to enjoy the scenery of Traverse bay without being crowded." Immediately the boats slipped their moorings, and, after three cheers for Traverse City, which were responded to from shore, steamed majestically away—the Boys and Bohemian bands,

stationed upon the respective hurricane decks of the "City of Traverse" and "City of Grand Rapids," discoursing excellent music. On the "City of Traverse," Mr. Hannah lent his presence and services to the excursionists. The day was perfect—the bay evidently gotten up for the occasion, as scarcely a wavelet ruffled its crystal surface. The calm, pure, glistening waters reaching away to the north farther than the eye could reach, its shores fringed with luxuriant emerald forests; the receding "Big Village;" the three gaily-decked steamers, sailing side by side; presented a scene worthy the artist's brush. In the cabin of the "City of Traverse" string music, for dancing, had been provided, but tarrying on deck, viewing the beautiful landscape and drinking in the invigorating air was preferable to dancing, consequently dancing languished. Apparently the inspiring scene and exhilarating atmosphere was conducive to the induction of facetious ideas into the brains of the quill-drivers, which ever and anon found vent in scintillations of wit. One of these outbursts occurred whilst passing "Hog Island," which after a lively debate, and no personal allusions, was re-christened "Press Isle."

We enjoy the beautiful, ever-varying panorama of Grand Traverse Bay during a ride of thirty-five miles 'ere we touch the coarser waters of old Lake Michigan, and shortly steam inland towards Charlevoix. The "City of Traverse" is a little too large to easily make the channel to Charlevoix harbor, consequently the "Faxton" steams on ahead, discharges its load of human freight upon the wharf, then returns and takes in those on board the "City of Traverse."

AT CHARLEVOIX.

The boats steam gallantly up the narrow channel, or Pine river—which is less than half a mile in length and enjoys the distinction of being the shortest river in the world—into Round Lake, where a charming view is unfolded to us. To our immediate right is the beautiful village of Charlevoix, a little further on is the Charlevoix summer resort, with its newly-painted, pretty cottages, and just across the strait to the north, upon the bluffs, is the Chicago resort. Looking through the short channel separating the two resorts we catch a glimpse of one of the most lovely sheets of water in the world—Pine Lake. As we approach the pier the East Jordan cornet band discourseth welcoming music. The village is tastefully decorated and flags are flying to the breeze in every direction. Disembarking from the steamers we are immediately escorted by a citizens' committee to the new and magnificent opera house, where A. D. Cruikshank, Esq., welcomed us in the following words:

Ladies and Gentlemen, members of the State and Western Michigan Press Associations: In behalf of the President, the Council and the citizens of the village of Charlevoix and vicinity I extend to you a cordial and hearty welcome to our beautiful town. We are glad to meet you, and we deem ourselves honored in the fact that you selected our town as one of the points to visit while you are in this part of the State. We know that as Associations you have great influence, and as individuals representing as you do the various journals of the State, your influence is felt not alone through the State, but in other states and other lands. We know that no class of men representing any other calling or profession wields the influence of the press. Because of our knowledge of this fact we are glad to welcome you to our village, for we are selfish enough to expect that because of your great influence in this State and others we will receive a benefit from your visit to our midst; and we are honest enough to admit it. We know that you are men and women who appreciate a good thing when you see it. We think we have something good to show you, and therefore are glad to entertain you. We present to you our beautiful lakes, abounding in fish, a fine harbor, delightful climate, timber in abundance, and as rich and fertile soil as ever was tilled by man. What we need is the knowledge by you and your neighbors all over the southern portion of this State and the other states you represent of what we have here in Northern Michigan. We feel that the resources of this part of our State are not known, that the climate is not understood, that the winters are exaggerated, and that there is a general misunderstanding of the country. We are glad to welcome you, because we believe we will receive a benefit from each of your journals in giving to the people some knowledge of what we possess in Northern Michigan. And when known we will have these lakes studded with villages and farms vying in beauty and fertility with those in a more southern clime. Tell your patrons what we have here. Send your sons and daughters, your neighbors and friends to our town and county. We will welcome them. We need their aid in developing this country. We again welcome you to our town and to our homes, and extend to you the freedom of our city.

President Hampton, in behalf of the excursionists, responded to the address of welcome in the following extemporaneous remarks:

Gentlemen of the Charlevoix Business Men's Association, and citizens of Charlevoix: I expected that Mr. Sellers would speak for our party, but at the last moment he is overcome by bashfulness—his besetting sin—and asserts that he never makes an extemporaneous speech without having two or three days to prepare it. It therefore becomes my pleasant duty, in behalf of the Michigan and Western Michigan Press Associations, to return our most hearty thanks for this cordial reception and the magnificent entertainment you have provided for us.

To tell the truth—and we editors do tell the truth sometimes when we are away from home, although I know it will be difficult to have that statement believed in the town where Brothers Smith and Strang both reside—we thought we were too much for even Charlevoix hospitality. Now that you have shown your ability to take care of us so handsomely we must admit either that we have over-estimated ourselves or under-estimated Charlevoix. And we can't admit that it is possible to over-estimate ourselves, especially after such flattering remarks as those to which we have just listened.

We are gratified at the honesty of Mr. Cruikshank's remarks, for they show us that lawyers can be honest, just as editors may be truthful; and I can assure you, gentlemen of the committee, that

every member of these Associations will gladly avail himself of every opportunity of calling public attention to the advantages of your beautiful and thriving village, backed by an inexhaustible wealth of forest products and fertile soil, so favorably located, surrounded with such charming scenery, with such delightful climate and health-giving breezes, and best of all—possessing such warm-hearted, liberal and enterprising citizens.

Yet it seems hardly necessary that we should do so; for our presence shows that the fame of your lovely village has already gone abroad. We announced in our circulars that the excursion would visit Charlevoix, and as a result you see here the largest gathering of newspaper men which Michigan has ever known.

But "We come not here to talk." We came to see your town, to enjoy a glimpse of your scenery, to enjoy a ride upon your crystal lakes, and—yes, we came to dinner, and so I will close by again assuring you of our appreciation and heart-felt thanks.

The press song was then rendered by the choir, meeting dismissed, and the party invited to dinner. We having been duly ticketed on the trip are divided into divisions, and preceded by delegations of citizens, escorted to the various hotels for dinner. The actual number dined at these hotels is recorded at 396, and distributed as follows: Fountain City House 106, Chicago Club 105, Bridge Street 92, Newman 88, Belvedere 84, Shaubert's 21. Perhaps the forenoon's ride and bracing atmosphere had whetted our appetites to the appreciative point, for everybody is delighted with their dinner and affirm that they never ate a better. Suffice it to say that the repasts were elaborate and complete in every detail, and included speckled brook trout, to which all did ample justice.

Charlevoix is a village of probably 1,500 population, which during the summer months is increased by the arrival of resorters to fully 2,000. Aside from its superior resort attractions it has many natural advantages. It is charmingly located; has a commodious harbor, completely land-locked from the severest storm; has several extensive manufacturing establishments, the Sentinel and Journal newspapers, and is backed up by a good farming community. Its boating facilities are unequalled and fishing superb.

The Charlevoixians had on the program a boat ride up Pine Lake, but the hoisting of the signal-service storm-flag and the advice of our ever-watchful Hannah, hastened our departure, which was attended by cheers and band music. The beauties of the situation, delicious speckled trout, or excitement incident to departure, caused a valued member of our party to tarry "be-hine," but the cry of "man overboard!"—which was afterwards interpreted to mean "not aboard,"—caused the "Faxon" to "drop anchor," and James and wife came aboard and were given an enthusiastic welcome.

The heralded storm, however, did not strike us and the trip to Petoskey was made in one hour and a half, without mishap or incident worthy of note. The white-capped billows are a radical contrast to the calm, glistening waters of Traverse bay, and the crowd is not quite as jolly as it was earlier in the day.

AT PETOSKEY.

Petoskey, the most famous of northern resorts, is a city of over 3,000 population, built upon an amphitheatre of hills that rise in a succession of ranges from the water's edge to a height of upwards of 200 feet. As we enter Little Traverse bay we get a magnificent view of the city. About six o'clock, p. m., we reach her wharf; our bands play, and a welcoming response is re-echoed from the horns of the Petoskey band. Having been assigned quarters at the four leading hotels—the Arlington, Cushman, Occidental and Clifton—on board the steamers, we are immediately escorted to the hotels of our choice, where rooms and tea are in readiness for us. It seemed as though everything, even the elements, conspired to make us happy, for the sunset on the waters of Lake Michigan, we viewed that evening, was pronounced by old settlers as beautiful beyond expression.

The citizens had arranged in honor of our visit a complimentary ball and banquet, consequently at ten o'clock the business session of ye editors in the capacious hall of the Arlington house was brought to a close, the floor cleared and dancing begun, the music for the same being furnished by a superb Italian orchestra. The usually staid and steady editors have grown young again in the pure, bracing atmosphere, and indulge pretty generally in tripping the light fantastic, until the wee sma' hours. The banquet was served about 12 o'clock in the spacious dining room of the Arlington, which was tastefully decorated and brilliantly illuminated for the occasion. The tables were laden with all of the delicacies of the season, served in exquisite style, and universally appreciated.

Thursday forenoon was devoted to doing Petoskey and Bay View and hunting for agates and corals on the beach. Petoskey, although yet young, has nearly all the advantages of a city, including gas, water works, etc. It is noted for its excellent hotels and has many fine buildings and residences. Two newspapers, the Record and Democrat, are published. At Bay View is the celebrated Methodist camp meeting grounds.

Soon after dinner a special train conveyed us around Little Traverse bay to Harbor Springs, the home of our retiring president. The nine miles ride is made in observation cars, and as the road skirts the shores of the magnificent bay nearly the whole distance, proves very interesting. Brief halts are made at the Bay View and Wequetonaing resorts.

AT HARBOR SPRINGS.

As we come to a full stop at the depot the Harbor Springs cornet band strikes up a lively air; a citizens committee receives us; the ladies are given seats in carriages and all journey to the top of the commanding bluffs just back of the village. The panoramic view that here is spread before us is most magnificently grand and picturesque. The day is clear and the eye capable of reaching scores of miles. At our feet nestles the village of Harbor Springs on the shores of an ever-tranquil harbor; a narrow strip of land extending a mile out into the bay; the crescent-shaped bay, which has been likened unto the famous bay of Naples; the sparkling waters, pebbly beaches; green-studded shores rising in terraces far back inland; the beautiful resorts of Harbor Point and Wequetonsing; Petokey and Bay View, although five miles away, appear in all their glory; the blue waters of Lake Michigan; the gold tinted sky; the whole presenting a scene of surpassing loveliness, once seen, not likely to be soon forgotten.

Harbor Springs, the county seat of Emmett county, is a place of about 1,200 inhabitants. Its harbor is said to be the finest on the lakes and affords a haven of refuge to the largest vessels. A large scope of agricultural territory is tributary, and its citizens are sanguine in their belief that it has a bright future. It has two newspapers, the Independent and Republican. Harbor Springs existed as an Indian village many years ago. In fact it is stated that Father Marquette established a mission here 200 years ago. We visit the ancient Indian church erected fifty years ago. Father Servations, the resident priest, is in attendance, and very courteous. He tells us that his congregation consists of ninety Indian families. Connected with the church is an Indian burial place, in which is to be seen a multitude of little crosses, embellished with colored strips of paper, woven in fantastic shapes. A rain storm interferes slightly with the program prepared by the citizens, yet all are glad that they visited Harbor Springs.

AT HARBOR POINT.

The rain having ceased, about five o'clock we board the staunch little steamer "Gracie Barker," give three cheers for "Harbor Springs, the home of our president," and steam over to the Harbor Point dock, the Harbor Springs band accompanying. A reception committee greet us and extend the freedom of this charming resort. Soon tea is announced and we are conducted to the spacious dining room of the Harbor Point club house. The dining room is tastefully decorated with festoons of evergreens, and the tables, ornamented with beautiful flowers, are generously spread with the finest of edibles. The menu is rich, elaborate and perfect in every detail. At the close of the repast N. B. Jones, secretary of the association, in a brief address states that this exhibit of hospitality was not made for pecuniary effect, for the association has no lots to sell nor axes to grind, but that it was purely complimentary; that the members of the association felt that they had a resort possessing advantages and beauties that no other did, and they wanted their friends, the editors, to see and enjoy it with them. They felt honored in having the editors of Michigan as their guests, and he, in behalf of the association, bade them welcome.

After tea an hour is pleasantly spent in rambling over the resort, which everybody pronounces a delightful, enchanting spot. Harbor Point is a narrow, wedge-shaped strip of land, which, although a mile in length, contains an area of but fifty acres. It has over two miles of water-edge, and no matter how fiercely the surf of the outer bay may beat upon one shore, the other is always calm, quiet and safe—thus affording advantages for boating and bathing not enjoyed by many watering places. It is covered by a dense growth of beautiful young timber, has over seventy handsome cottages, and comes as near being "a paradise on earth" as anything we have seen. It was originally purchased and is still held, principally, by citizens of Lansing.

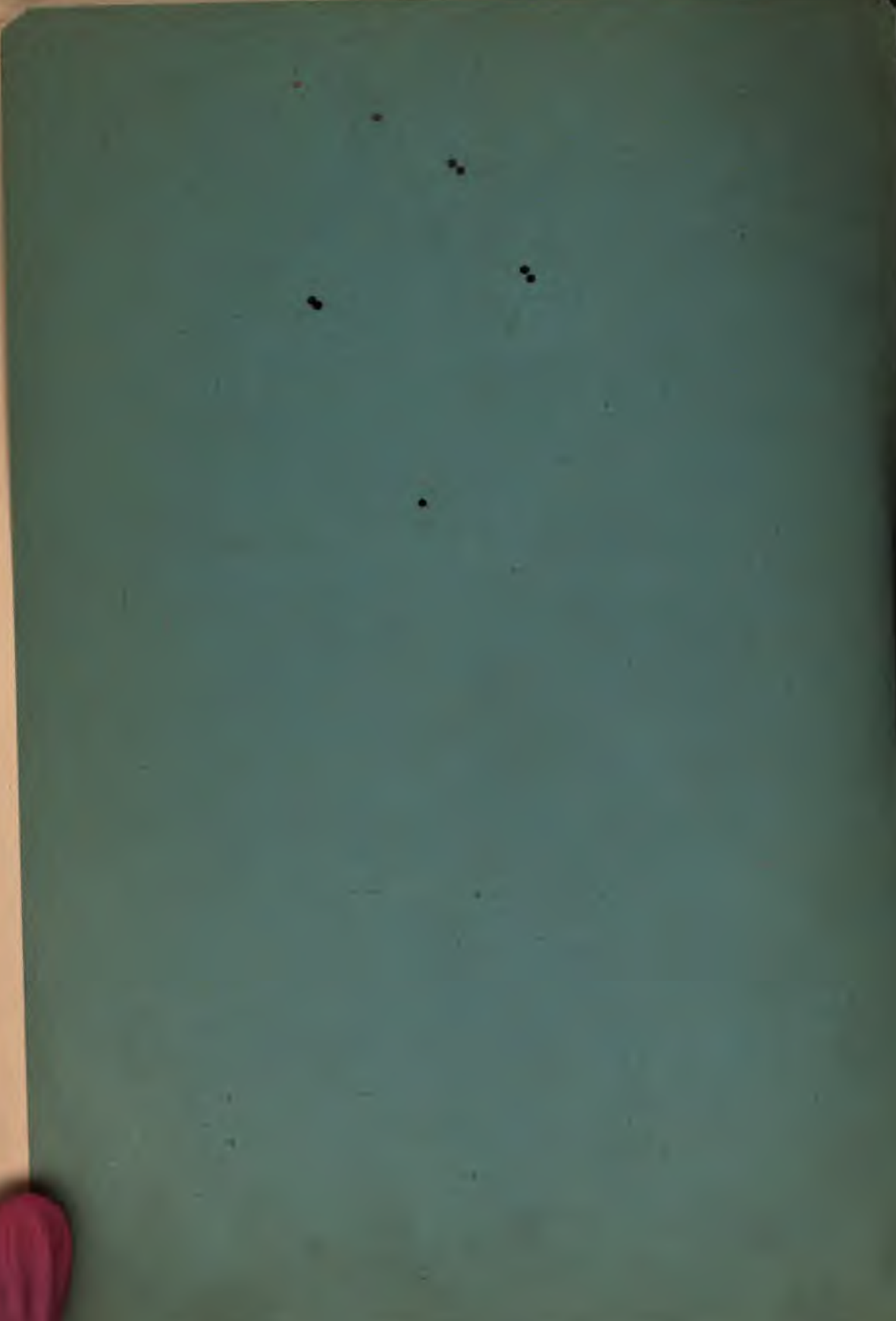
The owners of the steamer "A. C. Van Raalte," having proffered its use for a moonlight excursion on the bay, about 7:30 p. m. we board the same. Geo. F. Lewis, of the Saginaw Saginawian, thanks the good people of Harbor Point for their unreserved hospitality, then three cheers are given and we steam away. An hour or more is passed upon the bay and we land at Petokey.

FINALE.

A great many leave for their respective homes Thursday evening, the Friday trains leave but a remnant of the grand party behind, and the editors' picnic for 1885 may be practically stated as over. But the year's meeting has been so grand—the weather so beautiful—the sky so blue—the sunshine so genial—the air so invigorating—the scenes so enchanting—the excursionists so kind and friendly—the entertainment so royal, hearty and sincere—that these have made an impression, even upon the hearts of editors, that time can never efface.

ORNO STRONG,
Retiring Secretary.





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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MICHIGAN
PRESS ASSOCIATION!

AT THE
TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL MEETING,

HELD AT
DETROIT, MAY 29, 30 AND 31, 1888.



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DIVERSIONS AFFORDED, ETC.



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Smith, Robt., *Journal*, Ithica.
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Wood, W. H., *Deltan*, Grand Rapids.

Constitution and By-Laws.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be known as the Michigan Press Association.

ARTICLE II.

The objects of this Association are the promotion of the general interests of the press of the State of Michigan; the protection of its members from irresponsible customers; the gathering and disseminating among its members of information of value to them, and the rendering to each other of such assistance as may be within their power.

ARTICLE III.

Any bona fide editor, publisher or owner, or any person regularly connected with the editorial or business management of any newspaper in this state, may become a member upon being elected by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the regular meeting, and the payment of a membership fee of two dollars.

ARTICLE IV.

The officers of this Association shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot by the members present at the regular meeting, and shall hold office for one year, or until their successors are elected and have qualified.

ARTICLE V.

There shall also be an Executive Committee, charged with the administrative work of the Association. This committee shall consist of five members, elected annually, in addition to the officers of the Association, who shall also be members *ex-officio* of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI.

This Association shall meet annually at such place, day and hour as may be designated by the Executive Committee, notice of which shall be sent to all members not less than thirty days in advance.

ARTICLE VII.

Special meetings may be called at any time by the Executive Committee, and *shall* be called by the Secretary upon the application of ten members who shall make written request for the same. Not less than ten days' notice shall be given of such special meeting, including a statement of the object of the same.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended as follows: The proposed amendment must be signed by five members, and the Secretary shall then mail a copy to each member for his approval or rejection. If two-thirds of the responses are in favor of the amendment, the same shall be adopted. Amendments may also be adopted by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting.

BY-LAWS.

1.—The President and Vice President shall perform the duties usually pertaining to such offices.

2.—The Secretary shall keep the records of the Association, and shall attend to all correspondence of his office, and shall lay before the Executive Committee an annual report of his work. He shall be reimbursed from the funds of the Association for expenses actually incurred in the

performance of his duties. The Secretary shall publish, as soon after its adjournment as is convenient, the proceedings of each annual meeting, in pamphlet form, of the same sized page and in the style of state documents. He shall deliver one to each member of the Association; he shall also furnish one to the State Librarian. At least fifty copies extra shall be printed for the use of the Association at its next annual meeting.

3.—The Treasurer shall collect promptly at the annual meeting all moneys and dues from the members, and shall pay the same out only upon vouchers, and then only under conditions prescribed by the Executive Committee. He shall keep an accurate account of all the transactions of his office, and shall give bond in such sum as shall be approved by the Executive Committee.

4.—The Executive Committee shall have full management and control of the administrative affairs of the Association, and shall prescribe and supervise the work of the Secretary, Treasurer and employes, and shall submit a full report to each annual meeting of the Association. They shall have the power to fill any vacancies that may occur. They shall be authorized to perform such other duties as may be demanded by the interests of the Association.

5.—The quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of three members thereof.

6.—Applications for membership shall be made in writing, the applicants pledging themselves to comply with the constitution and by-laws. The membership fee must accompany the application. The annual dues shall be \$1.00, payable in advance, which dues shall be applied strictly to the legitimate expenses of the Association, as approved by the Executive Committee. Provided: That all persons who have been heretofore recognized as members, and have paid the annual dues for 1888, or shall pay the same before the annual meeting of 1889, shall be members without election.

7.—Members failing to pay annual dues shall stand suspended. The names of such suspended members shall be reported by the Secretary to the Association, at a regular meeting, when the Association may remit the dues or direct that the names of suspended members be dropped from the roll of membership.

8.—A member against whom are pending grave charges affecting the usefulness or reputation of the Association, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, may be expelled by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting, or may be suspended by a majority vote. The recommendation shall be accompanied by a copy of the charges and specifications preferred.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Michigan • Press • Association,
AT THE
Twenty-first Annual Meeting.

THE twenty-first annual meeting of the Michigan Press Association was held at Detroit, May 29, 30 and 31, '88, and all agree it was the best, in every respect, ever held by the association. This result was almost entirely due to the untiring efforts of Detroit's best citizens, under the leadership of General Russell A. Alger as chairman, and Col. Fred. E. Farnsworth, secretary, of the local executive committee. About four hundred visitors, including ladies, were handsomely entertained, and the meeting was altogether a most pleasant and profitable one.

TUESDAY, MAY 29th.

In the forenoon the Executive Committee, composed of President Brown, Vice President Hamilton, Secretary Kelly, Treasurer Ainger, and Messrs. Hine, Perry, Brearley, T. E. Quinby and Davenny, held a short business session at the Light Guard Armory Hall on Jefferson Ave. In the afternoon the Secretary and Treasurer were kept so busy receiving dues and applications for membership, that it was nearly three o'clock before the presiding officer called for order. The exercises were opened with an earnest prayer by Rev. L. H. Trowbridge, of the *Christian Herald*, after which Hon. John Pridgeon, Mayor of Detroit, welcomed the visitors in the following address:

As Mayor of Detroit I extend you a cordial greeting and hearty welcome to our city, assured that in this I am as fully in accord with the wishes and sentiments of our citizens as in any duty I shall perform during my term of office. The newspapers to us have become almost as great a want as our daily bread. They are as absolutely necessary to the transaction of business as are light-houses to the commerce of our great lakes. In the press of Michigan the people have the benefit derived from energetic, enterprising and intelligent management, and I congratulate you that there is substantial evidence of its appreciation.

Competent committees have been appointed to carry into effect the courteous intention of our citizens, and afford you such opportunity as the time at your disposal will permit, to see what is of interest in our city.

Now, gentlemen, I wish that your business meetings shall be satisfactory and profitable, and that you and those who came with you will have a thoroughly enjoyable visit.

On behalf of the M. P. A., President Brown responded as follows:

Representing the Michigan Press Association, the State organization of 700 members, it is with the greatest pleasure that I sincerely thank you for the cordial and hearty words of welcome to us extended by the legal head of this great city, a city which is first in prominence in the State—first

not only in its numerical population, or the amount of business transacted, or its great wealth, first in its Presidential candidates and its base ball club, but also in the cordial, royal hospitality that is evidenced by the preparation that you have so liberally made for our entertainment here on this occasion of the celebration of the twenty-first anniversary of the Michigan Press Association.

It was in the city of Detroit in the year 1809 that the first newspaper ever published in this State was started, and it is but fitting and appropriate that on this, the twenty-first birthday anniversary of the association, when it is supposed to have arrived at the legal age of independence, that we should return to the birthplace of the first paper in the State to celebrate our natal day at the old home, the home of which we are so proud. Not only was Detroit the birthplace of Journalism in Michigan, but she has always kept at the front, and can also truthfully boast of possessing the most enterprising and popular daily papers of any city between New York and Chicago, and to these is due in a large measure the fame of your fair city, not only in this State, but also in all the country around.

We do not feel that we come among you as strangers among a strange people; we feel that we are no strangers to Detroit. Your most hearty welcome extended to us through Chairman Gen. Alger and the Citizens' Committee in their elegantly engraved invitations, and the many kind announcements made from time to time through your various daily papers, have long since made us feel that we were no strangers to you. And it was this open-hearted, generous hospitality that has been manifested on so many occasions before, that has caused us so unanimously to accept your proffered entertainment. This hearty welcome, your eloquent words of greeting, have already made us feel at home—and you will speedily find, too, that we are at home, and among our friends. All that you have said we accept as coming from the hearts of the citizens of this beautiful city.

Again allow me to thank you, and through you the citizens and members of the various committees who have labored so hard to make our natal celebration second to none ever held before; and for the warm, cordial manner of your generous welcome.

Mrs. George W. Scripps, press representative of the W. O. T. U., was then introduced to the association and made an eloquent plea for the assistance of the Michigan editors on behalf of the cause of temperance.

W. H. Brearley explained how parties eligible could become members of the Michigan Sanhedrim.

Don C. Henderson, of Allegan, offered a resolution making Gen. R. A. Alger, Col. Fred E. Farnsworth and John H. Harmon honorary members of the association, which was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

President Brown appointed the following committees:

Place of holding next meeting—A. McMillan, Bay City; W. B. Weston, Grand Rapids; Charles J. Robinson, Luther.

Resolutions—W. L. Davenny, Detroit; W. P. Nisbett, Big Rapids; E. H. Spoor, Dowagiac.

New Business—W. C. Westland, Grand Ledge; W. E. Holt, Vermontville; J. D. Estes, St. Johns.

Memorials—C. C. Allison, Cassopolis; Don C. Henderson, Allegan; Otis Fuller, St. Johns.

The meeting then adjourned till the next day, and in charge of Gen. G. S. Wormer, B. Gibbons, W. A. Jackson, George H. Scripps, Rev. J. F. Berry, Moses W. Field, N. G. Williams, Edgar L. Lewis, John B. Whelan, Col. J. T. Sterling, H. H. Hoffman, J. T. Lowry and Harry W. Quinby, the visitors were driven about the beautiful "City of the Straits" in carriages, arriving at the House of Correction at 5 o'clock. Capt. Jos. Nicholson and his assistants not only took the editorial gang in, but gave them the freedom of the best managed institution of its kind the county affords, and cheerfully answered a thousand more or less pertinent questions. The guests of the city were next taken across the street to Capt. Nicholson's beautiful residence and grounds, where his accomplished wife and daughters, assisted by numerous skilled colored waiters, served the visitors with all the delicacies of the season under the disguise of "a lunch." During the banquet delightful music was furnished by Schremser's

Detroit Society Orchestra. When all had eaten their fill and the carriages were drawing up in front of the gate, preparatory to embarkation for the return journey, Capt. Nicholson was taken gently by the arm and led around to the side of the house where the lawn was broadest and sunniest. Here he was halted in the center of the assembled multitude, and Charles S. Hampton, the silver-tongued orator of the *Petoskey Independent*, was called upon by President Brown. In eloquent terms he thanked Capt. Nicholson on behalf of the Press Association for the royal entertainment which had been so generously proffered. Capt. Nicholson replied in his usual humorous and happy off-hand style, alluding in gallant terms to the lady guests, and regretting that he was not able to do even more than he had done for everybody concerned. The carriages were then once more entered and the visitors were driven wherever they desired to go.

In the evening there was a reception to the editors by Gen. and Mrs. Alger at their hospitable mansion. The host and hostess were assisted by Richard Storrs Willis, Gen. Olitz, William O. Maybury, Maj. George H. Hopkins and D. M. Ferry. From 8 until 10 o'clock the procession kept moving, and between those hours 400 persons shook hands and passed a pleasant word with Gen. and Mrs. Alger.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30th.

At 9:30 o'clock President Brown again called for order and a communication from Mrs. J. Sumner Rogers, of the Michigan Military Academy, was read. The President then delivered his annual address, which will be found elsewhere, which was followed by a valuable paper by Perry F. Powers entitled "City and Country Journalism." Invitations to visit the Detroit Opera House, Fish Hatchery and Battle of Atlanta, were read and accepted, with the thanks of the association. Col. Farnsworth, in a few well chosen remarks, thanked the association for his election as an honorary member. J. C. Bontecou, of the *Petoskey Record*, was unable to be present, and by request, his able paper "What a Just Libel Law Should Be," was read by C. S. Hampton, who was frequently interrupted by applause, and given a vote of thanks. A red hot discussion followed and the following, presented by Theo. E. Quinby, of the *Detroit Free Press*, was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS: It is a fact, supported by general recognition, that there are matters vital to the interests of members of this association which are proper subjects for legislative action, and,

WHEREAS: There are already laws upon the statute books of this State, which are inimical to the interests of newspaper publishers, as well as matters which deserve attention, be it

Resolved, That a standing committee of seven be appointed to attend to the securing of just legislation to Michigan publishers.

The following legislative committee was selected: Charles S. Hampton, *Petoskey Independent*; Col. L. M. Sellers, *Cedar Springs Clipper*; J. C. Bontecou, *Petoskey Record*; W. E. Quinby, *Detroit Free Press*; James H. Stone, *Detroit Tribune*; W. H. Brearley, *Detroit Evening Journal*, and John McVicar, *Detroit Evening News*.

W. I. Davenny, of the *Detroit Echo*, offered the following:

WHEREAS: The newspaper press of the State, since its inception in 1809, has been one of the most potent factors in the development of the vast and varied interests of the State, and,

WHEREAS: There is now no authoritative record of its growth and the relation sustained to it by men who have been, and are still, identified with its interests, be it

Resolved, That the President of this association appoint a committee of six, to whom shall be

Adopted, and the following committee appointed: W. I. Davenny, Joseph Greusel, W. H. Brearley, William Stocking, Don O. Henderson and W. W. Woolnough.

Resolved, That the Constitution of this association be so amended that a Historian be included among the officers to be elected at the annual meetings of the association, the election to be made in the manner designated for the election of other officers of the association.

In the afternoon the editorial party, accompanied by Detroit committeemen and their ladies, enjoyed an excursion to the water works and Belle Isle in spite of rather cool weather. A delicious lunch was served on board and the finest peoples' playground in the world was much admired by the visitors.

The 4th Regiment, M. S. T., gave a dress parade for the benefit of the pencil pushers, and a few minutes later the guests reached Detroit. In the evening forty applicants were initiated into the mysteries of the press brotherhood.

Association called to order and J. E. Beal, of the Ann Arbor *Courier*, presented his paper entitled "College Graduates vs. Practical Printers as Editors." It was well received and warmly discussed by Messrs. McVicar, Grabbill, McMillan, Dewey, Henderson and Hampton.

The "Bill Nye" of the M. P. A., in the person of Hiram Potts, of the Grand Haven *Courier-Journal*, was then introduced and paralyzed the audience by his comical handling of his subject entitled "Pl."

On motion the order of business was changed and the report of the Memorial Committee was accepted and adopted.

WHEREAS: The citizens of Ireland have heartily and royally welcomed the presence of His Majesty's forces, and as the presence of the M. P. A. in Ireland is a reality and by their generous hospitality have rendered it a most enjoyable and the delivery of the proclamation, he is

Resolved That the copies of this agreement not due and hereby referred to the National Executive Committee for its consideration and approval; to wit: a copy to the National and A. F. L. Executive Secretary who shall give effect to it insofar as the National Committee to the Congress and peace; and copies of the above-mentioned agreement to the administrative staff to it.

[illegible]

visit their performance at the Detroit Opera House; to the owners of the yacht Cora for their invitation to a sail upon the river; to the manager of the Cyclorama of the Battle of Atlanta for the courtesy of free admission to that appreciable point of interest; to Senator Palmer for his invitation to visit his renowned stock farm and famous log cabin; to the several railroads of the State for the courtesy of transportation afforded to members of the association; and be it

Resolved, That the thanks of the association be hereby especially tendered to the retiring officers of the association for the efficient manner in which they have discharged the duties of their several offices, and to the brothers of the Detroit press for the liberal use of their columns in furthering the arrangements for the meeting and for the full and satisfactory reports of the proceedings published, and, be it

Resolved, Finally, that it is a matter of congratulation that the association has attained its majority with such evident signs of life and permanent prosperity in its growing membership, increasing interest and consequent power for good.

Invitations to hold the next annual meeting at Grand Rapids and Saginaw City were considered and the former accepted.

The Secretary reported 105 applications for membership, 174 members present and paid dues, and \$287 received.

The Treasurer reported \$314.79 received from all sources, \$92.30 paid out and \$222.50 on hand. Other bills amounting to about \$75 to be paid would leave about \$150 in the treasury.

Both reports were accepted.

Proving satisfactory to the Executive Committee, on motion the 105 applicants for membership were admitted in a body.

Election of officers was next in order. The first ballot for President resulted as follows: Brearley 15, Powers 21, Lewis 2, Davenny 3, Kittredge 1, Sellers 9, Smith 1,—no choice. Col. Sellers took occasion to say that he did not care for the office and hoped his friends would not vote for him. A motion that the next ballot be confined to the three candidates who had received the highest number of votes was made and carried. The second ballot gave Brearley 26 votes and Powers 23. On motion of W. I. Davenny, W. H. Brearley was then declared the unanimous choice of the body. He made a brief speech, thanking the members for the compliment.

W. I. Davenny, Robert Smith and A. H. Finn were placed in nomination for the office of Vice President. The Secretary was instructed to cast the unanimous vote of the association for Perry F. Powers for Vice President.

Geo. W. Perry, of the *Bellevue Gazette*, and C. E. Baxter, of the *Charlotte Republican*, were nominated for Secretary. The latter declined the honor, and Mr. Perry was unanimously elected.

The Secretary was then instructed to cast the vote of the association for L. M. Sellers, of Cedar Springs, for Treasurer; also for A. J. Aldrich, of Coldwater, for Historian.

The following gentlemen were then elected in the same manner as an Executive Committee: E. A. Stowe, Grand Rapids *Tradesman*; E. B. Fisher, Grand Rapids *Eagle*; J. L. Brezee, Grand Rapids *Telegram-Herald*; W. B. Weston, Grand Rapids *Leader*; F. W. Ball, Grand Rapids *Democrat*.

The Secretary then cast the vote of the association for the following delegates to the meeting of the National Editors' Association, to be held at San Antonio, Tex., Nov. 20 next: M. E. Brown, E. J. Kelly, Otis Fuller, Don C. Henderson, Robert Smith, D. A. Spoor, Ren. Barker, Orno Strong, C. C. Phillips, W. I. Davenny, Burt Trumbull.

The association was presented by the citizens' executive committee, through Secretary Farnsworth, with a scrap book containing all the forms of printed

FRIDAY, JUNE 1st.

The special invitations to visit Orchard Lake and Senator Palmer's log cabin were accepted. At the Michigan Military Academy the members of the party were most hospitably entertained by Mrs. Col. Rogers, assisted by the members of the faculty and their wives, and the manly young cadets gave an interesting exhibition of their remarkable proficiency in military tactics.

The excursionists were returned to Detroit over the old reliable D. G. H. & M. R. R., (whose officials kindly furnished a special train, without charge, for the use of the party,) at the rate of nearly a mile a minute, and before two o'clock the editors were *en route* for Senator Palmer's famous log cabin and stock farm, where, under direction of Col. Farnsworth and Ford Starring, the scribes admired the noble Percherons, handsome Arabians, sleek Jersey cattle, etc. After a delicious lunch the party returned to the city, and soon the most pleasant and profitable meeting ever held by the Michigan Press Association had become a thing of the past.

President's Address.

By M. E. BROWN, Battle Creek Moon.

Members of the Michigan Press Association:

If you are expecting to be afflicted in the President's address with a repetition of the history of printing from Guttenburg down to the present time, you will be most happily disappointed. Or if you have expected to have your personal vanity tickled and puffed up by adulation of the importance of the journalistic profession, or reminded of the fact that the newspapers of the country mold its opinions and make Kings and Presidents, you will again be disappointed. A convention of editors and publishers, which meets but once in a year, for the interchange of experience and opinion, should have more important business on hand than the formation of a mutual admiration society, even for the purpose of supplying deserved praise which an unappreciative constituency does not bestow.

We are gathered here to-day in this twenty-first meeting of the State Press Association to discuss matters of interest and importance pertaining to the editing and publishing of newspapers, practically, not theoretically; to see how we can make better and more successful papers, and improve what we have; and last, but not least, how we can make them repay us better for the best years of our lives that we are expending upon them. The press of the State needs no panegyric here to-day from me. You know of its good qualities, and of its poor; of its achievements and its failures. There are several papers to be read during this meeting that I trust will be of practical benefit to us as an association, and that will aid us to more profitably proceed with our mission to maintain the influence of the press and to secure more adequate remuneration to the laborers in this field, and to better fit the members of the profession to meet the demands of this rapidly advancing age. To point out errors, suggest improvements, and profit by the carefully prepared papers on the various branches of newspaper work, that will be read and discussed by practical editors, who by years of struggle and experience have met and mastered these difficulties, should be our mission to-day; and if we but profit by their experience it will take from the profession much of its crudeness, and protect it from the vampires and adventurers who prey upon it now. This should be our main object.

To this end I shall offer a few suggestions as to points that need our attention.

In the field of advertising the association will find room for practical action. How to make a uniform rate for advertising in papers of varying circulation is a problem that has received much thought and attention. A committee should be appointed to draft a uniform scale of prices for papers varying in circula-

tion from 500 to 5,000, which should be adopted by the members of this association. This would aid much to diminish the evils of the present system of advertising agents, who, taking advantage of the unevenness of the charge for space for advertising in different papers, profit thereby at the expense of the publishers. A list of reliable advertising agents should be provided the members of this association, and in consideration of all foreign advertising passing through their hands the discount should not be more than fifteen per cent. The advertising agents of the country met in New York on April 19 and formed a trust combination. If the publishers wish to protect their interests they will take action accordingly.

This association should have a standing committee on legislation, which should, from year to year, see that needed legislation is had, and that bills are properly drafted and made into laws for the protection of the interests of the press, and to assist in its advancement. The responsibility of the press for what is often called defamation of character, calls for our immediate attention. Slander—the attempt to rob a man of his good name—has been justly considered one of the most dastardly offenses. The law, when the slander is malicious, is none too severe; but the necessity for the rapid collection of news gives opportunity for mistakes to occur unintentionally. Under our present law unscrupulous pettifoggers take advantage of this to harass the publishers with suits at law which are very expensive even when decided in favor of the publisher, and more often the editor who has set down naught in malice, is mulcted in heavy damages. A carefully prepared paper on this topic will be read later in the meeting by a lawyer editor, and I commend it to your careful consideration. This association, after due deliberation, should frame and pass a resolution asking legislators to so amend the law of libel as to correspond with the changing conditions and necessities of a profession whose untrammelled freedom, when acting within the bounds of an honest purpose, is of the highest interest to every citizen; necessary to the protection of public morals, and the guarding of both government and individuals against wrong, defalcation and fraud. Malice should not be presumed until proven, as it is an axiom at law that the intent forms the crime. The plaintiff should be made to give security for costs, and indemnity to the publisher for his trouble and expense in case he is nonsuited. Malice should not be presumed at law unless a retraction or correction is refused.

A historian should be elected or appointed for the association, each year, to properly collect and preserve the events of importance in connection with the history of the press of the State. This historical sketch should be read each year at our meetings and published in the proceedings.

The special committee on railroads and the press, appointed a year ago, succeeded in having a very satisfactory contract adopted by the Passenger Agents' Association. Another committee should be selected for the coming year to take care of the interests of the press as they will from time to time develop.

The publishers and business managers of newspapers in the State do not take the mutual interest in co-operating with their contemporaries in maintaining prices and preventing ruinous competition that they should. Petty jealousy and narrow-minded rivalry keep many hundred dollars out of the legitimate profits of the publisher. It pays in more senses than one to be on good terms with your competitors, and to have a business agreement with them as to prices.

of advertising and its work. The limitation aims to accomplish much in a practical way for the managers and business managers, and after a year's experience I am most heartily convinced it is a very useful adjunct to the State Association.

The financial success of a country newspaper is in collecting what the office earns: its popularity is measured in its news department, its reputation abroad in its ability to treat and discuss national topics. The first quality named is most essential to the publisher, the second is most important to the community, while the third is more the smallest consideration. The person reading possesses the three elements to a thorough degree, but the two first named should be all means be carefully managed, and if they are, there need be but few newspaper failures.

The perfect and healthy newspaper body as a whole, is that establishment whose different functions, editorial, circulation and advertising departments—all work together in such quiet harmony as never to be conscious of one another's existence. Systems well defined and strictly adhered to, is indispensable to the successful pursuit of any business or profession, and particularly in this line of the multiplex duties of a country newspaper office. But our business as publishers has as yet been reduced to no such ideal system. Hence these annual gatherings for conference and interchange of experiences.

In conclusion, let me say that journalists were never more appreciative of their power, or more cognizant of their faults than at the present time: never more desirous of honoring their profession by making themselves equal to the demands of a progressive people. Let this feeling receive encouragement. Let us not mistake license for liberty, nor insult for criticism. Let our utterances be truths and not conjectures, thought and not caprice, substance and not shadow, principle and not policy. Let us give people every-day facts, and not go crazy after sensational news. When these ideas shall have fully incorporated themselves into the framework of American journalism, then will the purity of our morals, the sanctity of our laws, the security of all rights, and the perpetuity of free institutions, be preserved to be transmitted to our posterity, unsullied and unimpaired.

City and Country Journalism.

By PERRY F. POWERS, *Cadillac News and Express*.

To be in harmony with the prevailing spirit of this enjoyable occasion, it would seem necessary, perhaps, that I should endeavor to dispose of my subject as most of you have at times disposed of obituary notices in cases where, for the gratification of all interested parties, it was necessary that more attention should be given to the minister's beautiful prayer, the floral offerings and the appropriate hymns, than to the presentation of many facts connected with the dear departed. I would not have it inferred from this suggestion that I deem it impossible to treat of facts within the confines of my theme that would harmonize with the degree of appreciation and respect and honor here being displayed in behalf of the newspaper makers of Michigan. Many pages more than it would be fitting here to present, could be filled with words of praise, general and particular, as well as many timely and truthful complimentary mentions; but, did I desire to indulge in such presentations, I would prefer to choose a time and place where mere words of kindness would be more highly valued than here and now, where appreciation is being expressed in action, and in the midst of kindness represented by hospitality as unusual as is the degree of the sentiment from which it proceeds.

By reason of the fact, therefore, that the present occasion is for the most part dedicated to pleasure and enjoyment, it may seem unreasonable that a few minutes of this season should be spent apart from either, in a spirit of self-contemplation, which, while it does not always add to self-pride, and may not now increase professional egotism, will at least serve to counteract the influence of extreme eulogy, and make possible the realization of a conservative medium in which nothing is borrowed from fancy or taken from truth.

And just here permit me to explain the permission and acceptance of that part of my subject's title which refers to the weekly newspapers published away from the larger and more pretentious points of the State as included under the head of "Country Journalism." I am aware of the suspicion and prejudice that attach to the appropriation of the title of "journalist" by a country newspaper editor, and must confess that I cannot myself plead innocent to the charge of sharing in the general antipathy to the term. But to serve a present purpose, in order to stand for a time on a seeming common footing, the managing editors of the journals truly great in the figurative estimation of their own circulation compilers, with the humble director of the destiny of the cross-roads proclaimer of truth, and the further information that it is the best advertising medium in its county—that this common footing may seem to exist, we have included all within the borrowed term, with but two classes indicated, city and country journalists.

City journalism would seem an ambitious theme to be discussed by a member of a lower degree in the profession, were it not that it is here assumed for the purpose of treating of its relation to the country press. It is not true, however, that I am entirely innocent of all practical knowledge of ways and means connected with daily newspaper experience. I can well remember the time, but a few years ago, when, far above the common things of life, (in the fifth story of a city newspaper office), I was initiated into an important degree in daily newspaper mystery, and was given a case as a full-fledged "jour." Some things that I there learned, and some information and experience afterwards obtained, while serving the paper on a lower level for a higher salary, may permit me to assume a greater degree of familiarity with city journalism than I would desire to take had not such experience been gained; and permit me here to state that familiarity in my case with city newspaper work gave birth not to contempt, as it is said to most times do, but rather to admiration and respect.

I do not know that a peculiar prejudice that then existed in city composing-rooms, and among the lesser lights of the reportorial staff, with which I was permitted after a while to shine, against country newspapers and publishers, is yet so generally held as in the days, or nights, rather, when I imbibed and cherished it. How often have I heard the crushing comparison made, as a penalty for some infringement or office rule of fraternity custom, "As green as a country editor;" and how haughty and expressive of self-esteem would be the bearing of the "old-timers" toward a new "sub" when it became known to them that he was only a country compositor and would have to "give out" his "markets" and "tabs." I have acquired some experience since the time referred to, and consequently know less than I then did, but so strongly was I impressed with the old prejudice, that now, as I saunter through city composing-rooms, searching for familiar faces, and reviving memories of former scenes, I display my printer's rule as a means of introduction rather than my card, and speak knowingly of "prints" and "pick-ups," "sits" and "subs," rather than boastfully of my paper's circulation or of being the official paper of the county. It is an inexcusable weakness from a professional point of view, perhaps, to discard reference to the latter thrilling facts for the former gossip of the composing room, but I cannot but think that "he jests at scars who never felt a wound," for whom the ridicule of these self-elected mentors of the profession has no terrors.

Matthew Arnold, in his widely read article on "Civilization in the United States," referring to our daily newspapers in a spirit of criticism, says: "You must have lived amongst their newspapers to know what they are." Mr. Arnold's words were not written to convey the meaning that Americans would give them, for we would echo the suggestion, in reply to all the criticisms on American newspapers made by that scholarly and talented Englishman: "You should have lived amongst them to have known what they are." I do not know that there is anything distinctly American in which we, as a people, take more comparative pride, than the American newspapers; and when Mr. Arnold, in the course of his article, said "it is certain that every nation has the newspaper it deserves," he so joins our judgment to our pride as to make his fault-finding seem fair and his comparisons complimentary. Could coming events have cast their shadows before, and when he was penning his article, could Mr. Arnold have known that so soon after their publication the columns of hundreds of newspapers of America would contain the announcement of his death, and

would accompany that announcement with comments on his life and work as kind and complimentary as sincere admiration and appreciation could make them—had he known this, would he have said: "I should say that if one were searching for the best means to efface and kill in a whole nation the discipline of respect, the feeling for what is elevated, one could not do better than take the American newspapers"? In America to-day, the memory of Matthew Arnold is held in high esteem; much that he has done for the world in assisting to elevate it and encourage the discipline of respect is known and appreciated—and to the American newspapers, from the masses of the American people, is the greater part of the esteem and appreciation and knowledge of Matthew Arnold due. A swift, brief answer does that seem, to a charge that accused them of killing respect and destroying appreciation for that which is elevated.

These commendations are principally intended for what in our subject is known as "City Journalism," prominent representatives of which were selected by Mr. Arnold as the objects of his criticisms. And herein lies the principal interest of country newspapers in the character, influence and tone of their metropolitan representatives. I use the term "representatives," for the reason that it is most times true, and should always be so, that a country weekly to a degree represents the better elements and classes in its community, as well as being in itself an index to the business enterprise and progress of the place; so is it true that our more important city dailies will be taken as representatives of the best journalism and as products of the best newspaper talent of the State. It would not be a fairly formed opinion, however, to conclude that there exists the difference between the average newspaper talent of Ohio and Illinois that exists between such influential newspapers of their respective States as the Cincinnati *Enquirer* and the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*. Both are great newspapers—almost equals, perhaps, in many things that define the status of newspapers and make them great, but there is a difference in their tone and influence, and that difference permits the *Inter-Ocean* to rank as at least the highest representative of the party to which it adheres in its State, while it prevents the *Enquirer* from enjoying a similar position in its State. The editorial page of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* does not fairly represent the editorial vigor and industry of newspapers of its own party in Ohio, while the papers of its party in Illinois will be generously judged by having the *Inter-Ocean* stand as their best representative. These citations are made as illustrative of an instance in which it would be just to accept a city newspaper as fairly representative of the weekly papers of its State, and another in which such acceptance would be deceptive.

If my thought has been clearly expressed, it will be seen how directly concerned are the country editors of Michigan in the character and strength of the daily papers, which, in the present order of things, must stand as their representatives. To these papers, with their extensive news service, better opportunities for compilation and condensation and wider circulation, as well as by reason of their connection and relation as exchanges with the greater number of the weekly papers of the State, is by custom given the privilege and authority of representing the prevailing sentiment, the political preferences and prejudices, and the social and moral matters of interest and importance, not only of the city in which they are published, but of the entire State as well. Were it not for the assistance of the country papers, which are expected to furnish an insight into the prevailing sentiments and peculiarities of their communities, as well as to represent the best, a true composite State opinion or State sentiment

could not be positively given, unless it could be accomplished through the medium of a weekly State representative convention. The gathering and compilation of community sentiments and opinions could not be satisfactorily accomplished through the medium of special correspondence, however extensive it might be, for the intelligent exchange editor will read between the lines and in the lines of even the weakest country weekly, more of the average and prevailing sentiment of the place of its publication than is usually given in the direct positive statements of special correspondents.

Taking it for granted that, in some degree at least, this mutual relation of city and country journalism will be recognized by the representatives of the former, and the source in part of their importance as state papers admitted, I shall venture to mention some phases of that relation as represented in the phases of Michigan's city papers, which are helpful and pleasing to the editors of country papers, and some phases which I am assured are hurtful, and believe to be displeasing to many. In the first place I believe the general and persistent circulation of the more important city dailies throughout the State to be directly to the advantage of the country weeklies, and it has always seemed to me the duty of country publishers to assist and encourage their spread and reading. They come as representatives in themselves of energy, enterprise and development; they bring daily messages of the activity and ambition of other towns and villages, thus awakening home pride and assisting to create home interest and community competition, and they form a connecting link between the daily rush and whirl of life in the busy business centers, and country towns, that lend life to the latter and stimulate the qualities that assist in making a town progressive and prosperous. Experience has proven to me that the regular readers of daily papers in country towns are the persons most likely to be loyal to their home paper and active promoters of all that pertains to home industry and home advancement.

The courtesy of an exchange upon the very generous terms granted to the weekly papers of Michigan by our city dailies, adds to the balance of obligation against us, as also do the kindly mentions made and the interest manifested in the welfare of their country contemporaries by their metropolitan superiors. Of the character of many of these mentions, however, and the worth of this interest to the country press as a whole, I wish to speak further; and if in what I shall add there may be more of criticism than commendation, I trust it will not be taken that in this matter I am envious or ungrateful, for I have been to generously treated to permit of envy or excuse ingratitude.

Under the head of "indiscriminate approval," as a less offensive phrase than "insincere flattery," would probably come the chief charge to be entered by the country papers of Michigan against the city press. They may be meant in kindness, these paragraphs of unearned praise and unqualified recommendation, but such kindness is demoralizing rather than helpful, and their recommendations are too many times almost absurd to be at any time valuable as they should be. It may have been impossible in some instances for premature country editors to practically demonstrate that they possessed sufficient literary ability to properly construct a six-line paragraph, but I do not think it has ever been impossible for even such to find an enthusiastic indorser in some influential city paper, by which he would be presented as a gentleman and a scholar. One might lack sufficient influence to secure credit for a dollar's worth of groceries at a village store, and yet he would be lauded by our most influential city

journals as a man to whom his village could look for position and standing in the State. I do not know that it would be desirable for city journals to form themselves into a board of examiners to inquire into the qualifications of aspiring country journalists, or to assume to themselves the duty of criticising and presenting the faults and weaknesses of their country contemporaries, but I would most positively assert that such an examining board, and such a course of criticism, would be vastly more beneficial to the State press, and as compared to the demoralizing flattery and indiscriminate praise now so generously bestowed, would be by far preferable to the great majority of the country editors of Michigan.

This unusual relation of the city press of Michigan to that of the country is in part the result of aggressive, continuous competition, carried on by the papers of our metropolis for circulation and position throughout the State, and in part the outgrowth of a department known as the "State column," which as here conducted is, so far as my information extends, peculiar to Michigan city journalism. In seeking to extend the popularity of their respective papers, and to increase the number of their readers, the assistance and influence of the country papers have been freely solicited and impartially granted, and as a means of reciprocation the city dailies have given praise for praise, unqualified commendation for editorial indorsement, regardless of the sometimes weakness of the latter, and of the possible weight and worth of the former. The "State column," being in great part composed of paragraphs copied and compiled from the country papers, it is not strange that there has developed a degree of familiarity between the editors and compilers of that department and the source of their inspiration, not shared by the other departments of the paper, and entirely unknown to the city dailies in States where the "State column," as it here flourishes, has not been introduced. Under the versatile pen of Eugene Field, the column of "Sharps and Flats" in the *Chicago Daily News*, held in part the relation to Illinois "rural journalists," as he was pleased to call them, that is in Michigan held by the "State column," with the exception that Field confined himself strictly to ridicule and burlesque, while here the ridicule of our city papers is principally held for purposes of offense and defense against each other, and the burlesque that sometimes appears in the "State column" is so delicately hidden beneath seeming praise and earnest indorsement as to make its deluded victim wish to kiss the hand that stabbed him.

I would not have it understood that these references represent unqualified condemnation of even the characteristics and features of Michigan city journalism here complainingly alluded to. The nearer and more intimate the relation between our city and country papers, the better opportunity is there for the former to absorb the sentiment and influence of the latter, and the more probable will it be that the country press will take on some of the dignity and self-esteem and better characteristics of city journalism. It is in fact the realization that this nearer relation and closer acquaintance will cause the city papers of Michigan to become the ideals as well as the favorites of their country exchanges, that prompts me to suggest a more sincere tone and more conservative form of commendatory expression. If this be not done, there is danger that in some respects our ideals will be dethroned, and that we will be reminded of the advice to his father from the young man who had gone west: "Come out here, pap; some mighty mean men get to office here." The application of this advice would not be that mean men fill city journalistic positions, or that it

would be proper or fitting for country editors to aspire to them if they did ; but rather that the persistent effort to be journalistically jovial and social, detracts from the worth and weight of the departments through which fraternal relations are established, and suggests to country editors that their ideal is easily and cheaply attained, and that very ordinary effort finds place and favor in city journalism.

I do not know that I can better bring before you briefly the topics pertaining to country journalism which I wish to present, than by giving as quotations two views of the weekly newspaper and country editor, each of which, though differing decidedly in their opinions, contains some truth and much food for reflection. The first is from a paper on the "Weekly Newspaper," read before the last Wisconsin Press Association. The writer, a member of the Oshkosh *Times* editorial staff, says of the country weeklies that come to his exchange table: "There is in them convincing evidence of carelessness, indifference and lack of enterprise. The selected matter is dull, the editorials dreary or stale, when perchance there are any, the local news weak and driveling, and the press work and typographical appearance villainous. Were the same energy, the same anxiety, and the same spirit of progress exhibited by the publishers of weekly newspapers as by those of the live metropolitan daily, the country weekly would exert a greater influence in the community, and its editor be a leader rather than a follower of men. The country editor wastes his valuable time traveling about the State, attending farmers' institutes, teachers' gatherings, political, editorial, (that's we,) and other gatherings, while his paper is left to the mercy of the devil; caring little for his personal appearance, so long as it furnishes an excuse to collect subscriptions and pay for advertising. Country editors prefer to sit at their desks and jot down such drivel as 'spring is coming,' 'potatoes are scarce,' 'cider is in the market,' and so on, rather than to take a little valuable exercise and hunt up something more valuable. Too much space is given to news that needs but a line or two, while matters of weight and deep concern are passed over without the slightest mention."

It is reported that the reading of the paper which contained the paragraphs just given "aroused considerable adverse criticism," and only upon the supposition that the seats were bolted to the floor, and the fact that the paper was not read by the writer, can it be explained why such statements did not arouse something more expressive of resentment than "adverse criticism." Another paper, read before the same convention, contained these statements: "It must be confessed that in point of news-gathering, the country newspaper of to-day is not up to the highest standard. Take the bundle of exchanges which comes to the *Wisconsin* or *Sentinel* office every day. How much sameness you find. How little individuality. I believe that from a professional standpoint the country paper has improved but little in the past twenty years." Although Michigan weekly newspaper men have much in common with the publican and the sinner, there are probably none here who will not wish to in part repeat the prayer of the Pharisee—"We thank Thee that we are not as Wisconsin newspaper editors."

The other and opposite view is given in an article on the "Country Editor," found in a printers' paper, and represents, perhaps, the extreme possibilities of truthful eulogy, as did the other quotations represent the extreme of criticism and condemnation: "There is an idea in the minds of many who ought to know better, that the country editor stands on the lowest platform of the profession,

and that he who is employed in any capacity, no matter how humble, on a metropolitan journal, is his superior. There is no greater mistake. An editor who has held important chairs in metropolitan offices and who has the reputation of having been successful, remarked: "I do not hesitate to write the leaders of the most important journals, but I would tremble to undertake the management of a village newspaper. There is no place in the profession so difficult to fill as that of a country editor. In cities a man who can do one department well bothers himself about no other. But the country editor must be good in all departments; he must be well read on all subjects; he must be able to discern the trend of public mind in politics, religion and social topics; he must discuss agriculture and anarchy with equal precision; he must be fluent on polemics and politics; he must write of the President and pumpkins; he must mind men of high degree and descend to things of low estate; in short he must be an all-round man. It is this that makes the position of a country editor hard to fill."

Both these pictures are exaggerated and overdrawn. The Oshkosh critic may have had in mind two or three country papers to whom his criticism would truthfully apply, and it can also be said that there are weekly papers in Michigan of which almost as much that is depreciatory could be asserted. There may be also many among the country editors of Michigan who possess the quality of mind and the degree of versatility and fluency represented as necessary in the latter picture, but it is not true that the possession of such exalted gifts and attainments is necessary to the successful management and editing of a successful country newspaper. If it were true, then indeed would the position of a country editor be hard to fill, and I know of at least one position that would be declared vacant forthwith.

While I would maintain that the talents and capabilities that might make a man a comparatively good country editor are not necessarily such as would make him the superlatively good manager of a metropolitan daily, I would as earnestly maintain that the intellectual and professional capabilities of the average country editor should be such as to entitle him to stand as the peer of the average member of the city newspaper staffs. In his community he should be a leader of men, on an equal footing, at least, as a thinker and writer and in morals and manners, with the principals of the town and village schools, the lawyers and doctors, and even the modern minister and other professionally educated men. I regard as cruel and criminal, the almost prevalent idea, too often practically illustrated, that any man who can obtain possession of a second hand press and a few pounds of type, has a right to consider himself qualified to edit a country paper, regardless of his intellectual fitness or sympathies with the requirements of the position. Think of the delicacy and appreciation of human and higher sympathy a man should have who dares to speak of the death of a mother, beyond a mere announcement—and from the "home paper" there is always expected the expression of sympathy and cheering thoughts that are only warranted by neighborly intimacy and personal friendship. Think of the purity of purpose and honesty of endeavor a man should have whose thoughts are to be absorbed by children and whose impressions and impulses are being persistently presented before communities and families. Think of the sense of justice and right a man should have, who by reason of his position, is authorized to uphold and defend the right and attack and oppose the wrong, and expected in all things to be fearless and tireless in seeking the best good of his community and the edification and satisfaction of his readers. Think of

these expectations and requirements that pertain as possibilities to editing and publishing a country newspaper, and then reflect on the sublime assurance and stupid assumption a man must have who imagines that with the possession of type and press comes capability to fulfill them, regardless of education, adaptation or sympathy and taste for such vocation.

I have indicated some of the higher positive qualities required for what may be my ideal country newspaper editor, and now permit me to refer to some characteristics of country newspapers, which from an ideal standpoint I regard as weaknesses and faults, and shall request their discontinuance:

Don't use the term "ye editor;" it is obsolete and absurd, and from the character of the paragraph which usually accompanies it, indicates verdancy and silliness.

Don't pollute your paper with such vulgar, ignorant familiarities as "Joe Brown bought a new suit of clothes at Smith's last week. Wonder what he was buying them for? Ah there, Joe."

Don't air your family affairs or financial embarrassments in the columns of your paper. A pitiful plea for cordwood on subscription, following an editorial explanation of the financial policy our government should adopt, detracts from the dignity of the explanation and might prevent its being acted upon. Besides, such mentions annoy your friends and supporters and please your enemies.

Don't publish items containing hidden meanings and insinuations only intended for the edification and comprehension of a select few. Such practices are amateurish and deserve the contempt and disgust they usually incite.

Don't adopt the thoughts and expressions of another, and by the use of some local names or terms place them before your readers as your own. Your exchanges will discover the deception if your home readers do not, and you will not afterwards receive from them the credit you actually earn and deserve.

Don't copy well written articles from other papers and neglect to give proper credit. Be assured that such of your readers as would appreciate them are too familiar with your trend of thought and style of expression to be deceived by borrowed inspiration. You need not hesitate to show your approval of elevating thoughts, strong arguments and bright expressions, by reproducing them in your columns, but be careful to credit them, and thereby receive yourself credit for appreciation and integrity.

Don't think it is your duty, or will result to your advantage, to keenly search the columns of your contemporaries or watch the life and daily walk of your competitors for blunders and mistakes and faults. You cannot win genuine respect or loyal support for yourself by seeking to impair or destroy the prosperity or position of a neighbor. Remember that you are expected to assist in developing charity rather than malice, and that your privileges make it your mission to seek to extend gladness and happiness rather than to cause humiliation and heartache.

In these reflections and suggestions, my brothers of the press, I have had no wish to lay personal claim to possession of the good, or freedom from the faults. Some errors I may have been enabled to more clearly prevent by reason of my having made them, and some weaknesses I may more fully comprehend by reason of my sharing them. It is not necessary that freedom from fault should precede confession or purpose of amendment. I have sinned, in the language of sincere repentance, and "Father forgive," the prayer of real sorrow and contrition.

As representatives of the press of Michigan, however humble may be the position and capacity of many of us, we appear for a State, the history and citizenship of which should inspire the purest purposes and highest attainment.

In the councils of our country, where patriotism and statesmanship of high degree are requisites, Michigan men have ever held a foremost place; in assemblies of thinkers and places of learning, representatives of the Peninsular State always stand high and command respect; in judicial, commercial and social circles, Michigan ranks not less than peer of even America's proudest States; and in the days of dark disaster, when loyalty to country, State and home were told in other ways than boast and song, when war's dread summons asked proof of loyalty with life, and in letters of blood on battlefields were written names immortal, where deeds heroic are recorded and souls of heroes rest, though unknown and forgotten here—in those days did the sons of Michigan win for themselves the praises of the world for brave and gallant deeds and the glory of a soldier's death and grave. For such a State, with such a history and such a people, are we privileged to stand as representatives in a calling high and worthy. Could there be stronger incentives to highest efforts, weightier reasons for noblest action, or purer sources of inspiration than are possible to Michigan's city and country journalists?

What a Just Libel Law Should Be.

By J. C. BONTRECOU, Petoskey Record.

Gentlemen of the Press:

Why was I called upon for a paper on the law of libel? There are members of this association who have wrestled with libel suits in the courts. There are others who even now are anxiously considering the question with that lively interest engendered by a pending case against them. Did the committee fear that these gentlemen would bring too decided a bias to the discussion? Was I selected because of my want of experience? Did the brethren think that the meekness, Christian charity, and consideration for the feelings of my enemies, so conspicuously displayed in my short professional career, would be of value in the way of pointers to the brethren who are now in hot water? These are only a few of the queries suggested to my mind by the extraordinary action of the committee in assigning this subject to me.

Doubtless, Mr. President, we are more interested in this matter than any other class, because of the fact every newspaper man—barring not the most careful and conscientious—is liable, through haste, false information, the bad judgment of an employe or the malice of an enemy, to find himself confronted with a libel suit on any day of the year.

I think I state a simple fact when I say that no class of men are more competent to give a fair and just judgment upon any question affecting the public weal, and involving public and private rights, than newspaper men; and it is certainly true that no class of professional men are less subject to personal bigotry and professional bias.

I do not attempt a compliment, but express a deliberate conviction when I declare that upon any broad legal question involving fundamental principles, the collective opinion of Michigan newspaper men is of more value than the collective opinion of the Michigan bar. This is true, because, untrammled by tradition, unconfused by technicalities, and undisturbed by side issues and the conflicting decisions of centuries of litigation, the newspaper mind moves directly to the consideration of the principle involved.

The other day I asked a newspaper man what change, if any, he would suggest in the libel law. "Not much," he replied. "Let the courts sock it to every publisher guilty of deliberate and malicious slander, and kick every other case out of court with costs to the prosecution." On repeating the question to a lawyer who is now, we believe, working up a frivolous prosecution against an impecunious editor, he said: "I know of nothing that could be added to the common law, reinforced as it is by statute and a long line of decisions, but I would like to see the act limiting the amount of exemplary damages repealed, and I wish some way could be devised to make the collection of costs and judg-

ment against you fellows more certain than it now is." That's the difference between the newspaper and the legal mind.

The law of libel is not a Michigan product. It is older than America and older than England. It is embalmed in the "Corpus Juris Civilis" of Justinian the Great and in the law of Moses. It has existed ever since the organization of government among men, and in the dim twilight of human history we find as distinct a recognition of rights in reputation as in property. It is astonishing that so few changes have been made in it from the earliest times. Penalties have been changed from time to time. Statutes have been framed in succeeding centuries to define or modify its application, but in essence it remains the same.

The libel law in which we are interested is the common law of England which, as modified by a few statutes and the decisions of English and American courts, is in force in Michigan. The few Michigan statutes bear upon certain questions of jurisdiction, limit time for action to be brought, specify certain libels to be misdemeanors, and touch the matter of damages. The English statutes are of the same general nature, and with one notable exception, do not affect the application of the common law to newspaper libels. That exception is Lord Campbell's libel act passed by Parliament in 1843, (6 and 7 Victoria, chapter 96), and it has been of the utmost importance to all publishers from that day to this. Therein were defined and established the right to plead in justification that the charges made were true, the right to plead retraction and apology in mitigation of damages; and the right to plead privilege, either by showing that the charges were contained in the report of official proceedings, or that the publication was necessary for the benefit and protection of the public.

Outside of the provision that certain libels shall be misdemeanors found in Sec. 9315, Howell's Statutes, the only Michigan statute affecting newspaper men is act No. 233, public acts of 1885, which, as amended in 1887, reads as follows:

An act relative to suits for libel—the people of the State of Michigan enact:

1. In any suits brought for the publication of a libel in any newspaper in this State, the plaintiff shall recover only actual damages, if it shall appear that the publication was made in good faith and did not contain a criminal charge, and its falsity was due to mistake or misapprehension of the facts, and that in the next regular issue of the said newspaper after such mistake was brought to the knowledge of the publisher or publishers, whether before or after suit was brought, a correction was published in as conspicuous manner and place as was the article sued on as libelous.

2. In any action or suit for the publication of a libel in any newspaper in this State the plaintiff shall not be entitled to recover in addition to actual damages any greater sum than \$5,000.

3. The words "actual damages" in this act shall be construed to include all damages the plaintiff may show he has suffered in respect to his property, business, trade, profession or occupation, and no other damages.

Thus investigation shows that from the time of Edward I, A. D. 1285, when the first English statute gave jurisdiction in cases of defamation to the ecclesiastical courts, down to the present time, only one statute appears in England making any change in the common law of importance to newspaper men, and that the cumulated wisdom of Michigan legislators from 1824 down to this year of grace 1888 is crystalized in the foregoing statute, which defines

the term actual damages—limits the amount of exemplary damages—but does not add to or take from the common law of libel in any degree whatever.

In view of these legal and historical facts, is it to be presumed that the committee really expected a country editor from the woods of Emmet county to suggest a substitute for this here old law which is covered with the mold and mildew of the centuries? It cannot be done. It will never be done. A clearer definition of rights, changes in the application of the law in special cases, alterations in the limit of damages, and provisions for the prevention of frivolous and malicious suits against publishers, may be made from time to time; but the law of libel will remain substantially as it is to-day as long as civilization endures, for it is founded upon eternal equities.

The doctrine that a man shall be held responsible for his utterances as well as for his acts whenever they trench upon the rights of another; the doctrine that a man has as indefeasible a right in his good name as in his property; the doctrine that injury to reputation is as real as injury to the person; the doctrine that it is the duty of the State to furnish as effective security to character as to person and property, are fundamental principles, and in the very nature of things must remain embodied in forms of law very much as at present until the end of time.

It certainly would not be complimentary to this association to assume that its members do not believe in these principles, or desire their subversion. On the contrary no class of men would more strenuously oppose their destruction. No class of men more clearly and intelligently distinguish between a justly restrained liberty and license of the press. Not one member of this association desires the removal of any just restraint upon the press. None of us ask for the throwing down of any barrier erected for the protection of the citizen against those injuries that may be inflicted by the malice of an enemy through the columns of a newspaper.

What is it then we want? In general terms I would answer: Only an equally fair show with the other fellow. To secure that desirable end a change is not so much needed in the law as a reform in practice and the construction of the law by the courts. Not a few oft-quoted precedents of antiquity, as venerable as the fossils of the Silurian epoch, need to be knocked in the head. The absurd legal fictions, "malice in law," "malice implied," "malice presumed," which are all inventions of attorneys to confuse and bewilder juries, should be summarily wiped out. Present practice invariably proceeds upon the presumption of malice.

Even where the statement of a supposed fact is copied from another paper, and is absolutely uncolored by the expression of editorial opinion, the case, if one is made, starts in a presumption of personal malice, when a malicious intent is obviously impossible. Thus the burden of proof is always laid upon the paper, because the presumption of malice can only be disproved by proving that the statement was privileged, or proving that the alleged libel was true. This moth-eaten old abuse exactly reverses the rule which obtains in other suits, viz: that the burden of proof shall rest upon the prosecution; and the newspaper which technically is defending a suit for libel, is really compelled to prosecute and convict the prosecutor, or it finds no escape from a verdict for damages under a presumption of malice.

To a plain, every-day man of common sense, can anything be more absurd? Can any but a "legal mind" comprehend why the rule in a suit for libel should

be just the reverse of the rule in a suit for assault and battery, larceny, adultery or violation of contract? In all other places a man is held to be innocent until his guilt is proven in open court. In libel suits the publisher is held to be guilty until he proves himself to be innocent. The bare and unsupported charge of malice in the declaration of a plaintiff is sufficient of itself to establish the guilt of a publisher unless he can disprove it by evidence.

In other cases the prosecution are compelled to prove the allegations made in the indictment or declaration, or their case falls to the ground, without any evidence whatever for the defense. Are newspaper men so much more dangerous and cunning than other criminals that due regard for the safety of society makes it necessary to find them guilty on general principles, unless they can prove themselves innocent? Or, is the reason for this singular difference between libel and other cases, found in the theory that malice in a publication being a thing impossible of proof, it must of necessity be assumed? Is it any more difficult to establish in the mind of a jury a probable ground for malicious intent in a publication than to do the same thing in a case for murder or assault with intent to do great bodily injury? Yet in these cases such probable ground must be established by evidence as the very foundation of the case.

I will let these questions, gentlemen, simmer over the slow fires of your intellect, while I say something, not new to you, but which may be surprising to those outside the ranks of journalism. I believe I state an absolute truth when I say that personal malice or a malicious intent to do injury to a citizen by a newspaper publication is something that seldom exists, save in the traditional presumptions of the libel law. I believe I state another truth when I say that a majority of libel suits have their origin in the malice of the citizen against the publisher, and are brought, not to vindicate private character, but to satisfy a revengeful feeling by working injury to the paper in a personal, political or pecuniary way. The first of these statements is true because three silent but powerful forces continually operate upon the editor to compel the suppression of personal feeling and make it subordinate to his public duty as the mouth-piece of public opinion. These forces are: first, a sense of liability under the law; second, a strong tendency toward conservatism in expression, growing out of business prudence; third, a consciousness that he has no more right to obtrude his personal quarrels upon the public than he has to permit his columns to be made an arena for the fighting out of other personal quarrels.

The outsider may not quite understand all this; but there is not an editor present who does not often take from the "hook" or strike off from the "galley proof" articles which are too highly colored by his own personal feeling. The reason for the second statement is found in the relation of the average newspaper to the average community. A newspaper in Michigan that is not well hated by the worst characters of the community where it is published is a very poor affair and has no excuse for existence. If a paper truly and fearlessly speaks for the best intelligence and moral sense of the people, it necessarily antagonizes men who are at war with society and dangerous to its peace, prosperity or morals. In the performance of this public duty the honest newspaper must unmask the dangerous hypocrite, expose the cunning fraud, denounce rascality in low and high places, let the light in upon official crookedness, demand the enforcement of law against offenders, apply the knife to social ulcers and lay open the schemes of confidence operators in business, morals, politics

and religion. This honest and faithful work makes enemies. They are unscrupulous and malicious, and, as before asserted, a majority of the libel suits against newspapers are instituted by these men in malice and to "get even" with the paper which has exposed them.

The general truth of this statement is made evident by the fact that in spite of the enormous advantage given to the prosecution by the law, a large proportion of the suits begun are abandoned before trial for fear the paper will prove the truth of its charges; and the further fact that of those proceeding to trial in court, comparatively few result in a verdict for more than nominal damages. And right here, gentlemen, lie the abuses of which the press complains. As malice is invariably presumed, and as the only complete defense is justification, the law puts it in the power of a spiteful, malicious and worthless character, who has not the slightest intention to force the ventilation of his unsavory record in open court, to cause the publisher much useless vexation and expense. These malicious and abortive prosecutions cause much trouble and a large aggregate expenditure, because of the burden of proof laid upon them by the presumption of malice.

Another class of suits without merit are allowed to go to trial. When the want of merit becomes apparent the glib attorney, who is probably working the case on speculation, assisted by a judge whose mind is densely illuminated by the legal learning of the middle ages, sends an honest jury out with a conviction that while the statements of the paper were true, and its criticisms justly deserved, a mysterious crime, called "malice-in-law," has been committed by the publisher. On the one hand is a conviction that the paper has not libeled the plaintiff. On the other stands that mysterious "malice-in-law" spoken of by the judge in his charge. From between the two issues a verdict for "six cents damages." That verdict is a stone that kills two birds at once. First, it is an acquittal of the publisher from the charge of libel. Second, it maintains inviolate the prestige of the precedents and that shadowy but inestimable legal fiction known for ages as "malice-in-law" is not allowed to lapse into "innocuous desuetude." Unfortunately, however, the publisher, to every intent and purpose of the jury, acquitted of libel, is left to pay a bill of costs forced upon him by this frivolous and malicious prosecution.

Mr. President, the press does not ask for the abatement of so much as one "jot or tittle" of the protection afforded by the law to the citizen, against the malice of the editor. But the time has now come when the editor should be afforded some better protection against the malice of the citizen. I am not to-day prepared to submit the text of a bill that should right those wrongs suffered by newspaper men because of frivolous and malicious libel suits. In the "Sweet By and By," when I shall have acquired in the newspaper business the fortune that will afford leisure for politics, I may represent my district in the Legislature. It is true that it may be years before the people of the "Emmet district" can be persuaded to try the experiment of sending another editor to the Legislature; but as the years drift by and the memory of past experience grows dim, I may possibly realize this ambition. Should not the needed reforms have been secured by the sensible, persistent, united action of this association before my Legislative career opens, I shall endeavor in some form to score the following points:

1. The fact of publication shall not in itself create the presumption of malice.

2. The word "malice" shall be restricted to its plain, common and obvious meaning, and shall cease to be the cover and ambush of legal fictions.

3. Malice, in the sense of a desire or design to commit injury shall be proved, or a probable ground for its existence established by evidence, before any question of exemplary damages will lie.

4. When "malice" is not proved by the plaintiff no damages other than actual damages shall be assessed.

5. The plaintiff shall give security for costs.

6. Whenever a verdict of acquittal, or a verdict for nominal damages is rendered, the plaintiff shall pay all costs with attorney fee.

No doubt the radical reforms will be violently opposed by the bar, for the reason that their adoption will make any but really meritorious libel suits improbable and sweep away an immense mass of useless, fruitless, vexatious, malicious and expensive litigation.

They cannot be achieved without the united and hearty co-operation of all the papers in the State ; and it will be useless to propose them to the Legislature until that time when all of us are prepared to back such a bill to the bitter end.

And it will be a long struggle. Were we prepared to enter upon the struggle now it would probably take a number of years to secure the enactment of a satisfactory law. And when that is accomplished it must be carried through a supreme court saturated with ancient traditions and precedents, in conflict with its provisions.

Therefore let us be up and doing if perchance, in our old age, we would reap the fruits of our labor.

College Graduates vs. Practical Printers as Editors.

By JUNIUS E. BEAL, Ann Arbor Courier.

It had been the intention of your present victim upon the essay altar to tell you the history of "The First Devil" in a printery, and how that diabolical appellation came to be applied. But your committee evidently thought that you already knew to a great sufficiency enough about the devil, and that the college graduate needed handling just as badly as his antitype. Therefore the change. A matter of general belief is that when a recent issue of the college graduate directs his attention to journalism on a daily, and is given the Police Court or dog fight department, he will bring in as his first item something, as follows:

"At four minutes after 3 this afternoon, while the intelligent reporter of The Gazette was circumambulating the purlieus of our rapidly augmenting city, his consciousness was aroused by a sanguinary encounter between two canines of the genus *bull puppibus*. The debate had not proceeded far when the incisors of the one which at one time had been white in color, became inserted by his volition into the starboard auricular appendage of the other and the smaller of the two combatants. Whereupon the proprietor of the latter beast, in most profane language and, we will add, with most indecent epithets, invited the other brute to desist, accompanying the request with violent projections of his pedal extremities against the lateral portion of that dog's anatomy. The man, whose name is John Smith, who lives at steen hundred and one Steenth street, should be arrested by the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and heavily assessed for a fine for disturbing the peaceful denizens of Polacktown."

So they do at the start. Their care for the exact word makes them write slowly and carefully, but they propose to reform the world so suddenly that powerful wrongs which exist in every community are attacked with a vehemence to make the hairs of the responsible owners' heads stand on end as a libel suit stares them in the face.

The college graduate in journalism is nothing if not enthusiastic. The activities of all classes of citizens he enters into with zest. Fresh from books and fresher in experience, he believes what people tell him, without that cold cynicism which possesses him after ten years' wrestling in a deceitful planet. Consequently one side of a controversy has an airing with righteous indignation in one issue, to be followed possibly by the embarrassing admission—next paper—that there were two sides.

Thus in this and in many other particulars is he at first heavily handicapped in the race against the practical printer as an editor. For the latter having grown up in a printing office has become imbued with its spirit. Many

a time and oft has he heard the reporters cursed by the "old man," as well as by the angry subscriber, for carelessness or for indiscretions in articles. Therefore if he has natural tact, it will be developed. For it must be affirmed that no man, whether a practical printer or a college professor, can come to any degree of success in journalism unless he has native tact and discretion, and that to a wonderful extent. Of course this, in some measure, may be acquired.

As William Cullen Bryant affirmed: "The editor should be on his guard against publishing what is false in taste or exceptionable in morals; but whether he will follow this custom in regard to taste, will of course depend upon his own intellectual culture."

Herein sounds the keynote of the difference existing between the college bred man and the practical printer. Which has the better intellectual culture?

The printer says he has the best practical education, while the scholar has the best theoretical education. True, but let us beware lest we fall into error.

Education must be judged by its results, and Humboldt hit upon a truth when he said: "The result of any system of education depends entirely upon the power that a man possesses of applying the influences brought to bear upon him to the ends of self culture, or whether he allows himself to be molded by them." Therefore, let us see how the printer and the scholar educate themselves.

You will declare the one learns by reading newspapers, while the other digs knowledge out of the books. Thus are we all either growing above our sources of knowledge, or else becoming subject to and being molded by them.

He who learns by reading newspapers mostly comes to think quickly, but, I fear, not deeply. The sudden transitions from murders to politics, from political-economical subjects to personal goossips shut us out from profound thought on anything, consequently we tend unfortunately to the superficial. While we come to know something of everything, do we know thoroughly any one thing? No, we do not. There is the dangerous pitfall of the man brought up in a newspaper office.

On the other hand, in a good book, which "is the precious life-blood of a master spirit," we come to know the subject thoroughly, surely, and the impression is a more profound one. As health and vigor is given the mind by thought and digestion, books attain to that blessed end more truly than short newspaper articles. This is not to be gainsaid. So the scholar loves his books. And when he enters upon the field of journalism, he goes back to them as often as his time will allow for new strength, new thoughts, and as a refuge. For the daily flood of exchanges well nigh draws out his old book love, and he may after a time, get the editor's impatience at long articles. However, he always feels as though, after all, "a good book is a friend who never deceives."

It is believed by not a few that the first book printed in England was at the University of Oxford under the patronage of college men, and the Divine Art certainly at its birth had noble, well educated god-fathers. For the Greek and Latin authors were the favorites with those early printers. Says a historian of the art of printing a hundred years ago:

"At this time printers were booksellers, and authors also, and a liberal education was thought necessary for carrying on the business completely. But now it is quite otherwise. A classical education is overlooked in the choice of apprentices at the case; while it must be evident, a liberal and critical knowledge, besides genius and taste, are necessary to form a good compositor;

for, at least, they ought to be perfectly acquainted with their own language, besides having a sufficiency of the Latin, and some notion of Greek and Hebrew, and to discover a mind capable of being improved in such knowledge as contributes to exercise the art with address and judgment. Had this been always the aim and object in the choice of pupils for the business, the professors would be held in a higher light than mechanical workmen in general are. But, much to be lamented, interest seems to be the prevailing character of too many master printers. They multiply their apprentices without considering their ability; so they can but read a chapter in the Bible it is now sufficient, while others endeavor to injure the trade by studying how to underwork each other."

"Newspaper and magazine printers add not a little to keep the youth in ignorance of the general practical part of the profession. The grand requisite the lad has to learn is expedition. Therefore, it not unfrequently happens that young men who have served their whole seven years in one of these houses know no more than what they could have learnt in less than one-fourth of the time in an office where works in general were printed; yet they must serve seven years before they can be entitled to work unmolested, even in one of these houses; in short, many who call themselves practical printers owe their employment wherever they go more to the time they have spent than to the merit they profess in the art; much better had it been had they served less time thereto, and have had more schooling."

A reaction to the old time way seems to be taking place and college men are again being called into editorial chairs, especially by the higher class of city papers, which, in their reviews or critiques, and leaders upon literature, science and the arts, need men of broad culture.

Formerly, the college men going upon newspaper work was slow, awkward and subject to ridiculous blunders, for which he was laughed at by the boys in the office, who were not at all sorry to have a chance at him. And many is the job put up on him. For instance, doing editorial work in my office was a young graduate a few years ago, to whom the boys gave five columns of stereotyped plate matter to read the proof of one hot afternoon in August. But he found three mistakes and insisted upon their correction. So he got even.

During the four years the boy was at college the practical printer was at his case or desk. So the latter has had four years' start of his classic brother. But this is a handicap race where the slowest runner needs to start first, while the better trained athlete starts from the scratch, but usually passes the slower one and wins the race.

Prof. Moses Coit Tyler, one of the keenest minds and happiest lecturers Michigan University ever had, had a wish to introduce a course of study in the curriculum as a training to those contemplating the field of journalism. He gave us hints of what such a course would be, but was called to Cornell before perfecting the plan. It would have been a very helpful study. Cornell is now taking steps to start a department of journalism, where classes are to be organized like the city staff of a large daily, the professor acting as managing editor and giving instructions in editing copy, condensing, writing headlines, etc. This is a decided advance.

But to-day there exists a large school in all our colleges where journalism is taught. I refer to college papers, of which every institution of any size has from one to a dozen. The editors are elected, and the board works together to bring out their monthly or weekly and, in several instances, their daily.

Therein many a bright mind discovers its field of future usefulness. Thereby our profession is gradually improved in gaining smart, cultured writers, who bring to it at first, instead of that experience which a few years will add, all the riches of ancient and classic history, literature and philosophic thought, besides the wealth of the later learning as shown in Shakespeare, Milton, Goethe, Schiller, Moliere, Hugo, Dante and Cervantes. We need more college graduates as editors.

The masses may not at once appreciate this, yet, to those who can read between the lines and see the polished writer, it is an added delight. For a student's writings have a fine flavor detectable by a connoisseur just as that rare old Falernian which mellowed many a verse of Horace, could be told by Mæcenas from the ordinary juice of the vine.

It makes for progress and higher standards; for better results and farther-reaching good; for ennobling the race and for shaming superficiality; for lifting up the ideals of man and for crushing wrong teachings. In fact, it hastens the reign of the true, the beautiful and the good, for which we are all longing.

Plate Matter and Gray Matter.

By H. R. STITT, *Lansing Journal*.

I do not feel that I violate any confidence in stating that the topic which appears opposite my name on the sumptuous mental menu was decided for me by the executive committee. It was against my better judgment that I accepted it, but one member of the committee came to me and said frankly that they had every confidence in me. The committee did not think there was another newspaper man in Michigan more thoroughly familiar with plate matter, and if I desired to make a casual allusion or two to gray matter, why any member of the committee would give me the information desired.

I don't suppose that any one here uses plate matter. Honestly, I don't. But, after the subject was assigned me, I spent considerable time in the society of a good young man and his partner in a daily paper printed in a town just about the size of Lansing, and as they use plate matter boldly and recklessly, they managed to saturate me with a good deal of valuable information, and I have learned this: That there are hundreds of daily papers in the smaller cities of the country that could hardly hope to live without the cheap and convenient plate news service. Also, that the country editor who makes a judicious use of plate miscellany frequently scores a point, but unless he does use it judiciously he had far better spend the money in adding to the local excellence of his paper.

One thing that militates against the use of stereotype plate matter is that the great throbbing public, brethren, are getting onto the fact of what the time-stained, despondent-looking express boxes alongside the front door imply; and as they drop into the office it affords Constant Reader and Veritas and Taxpayer an opportunity to make cheery little remarks about telegraph dispatches that come by freight, and to flood the room with sunshine by observing that they "see you are editing the paper with a handsaw now instead of the shears."

Another objection is that the stereotype firms have not yet learned that they can employ gray matter habitually and without injury in preparing their plate matter. Their telegraphic dispatches, for instance, are not all they should be at all times. Very few of the daily service concerns appear to have any idea of the relative value of news. Their service is usually slashed bodily from the local papers, and therefore if an ordinary 7x9 murder occurs in Chicago or wherever the plate house is located, your next service will contain a two-column account of the tragedy, while some affair of national importance will be dismissed with half a dozen lines.

Then, too, no editor can tell what vagaries of the plate editor he may be called upon to look up to with respect. This good young man and his partner that I was telling you of had a good deal of trouble early this spring with a

celestial phenomenon editor. Every few days a lurid heading would announce a dispatch reading something like the following :

WAPPASAW FALLS, Conn., April 29.—A heavy shower of new spring bonnets fell here early this morning. Two hours later came a terrific storm of milliner bills, one of which struck Maj. Gorlick as he stepped outside his front door, knocking him senseless. While there was no disturbance with the first phenomenon, terrific thunder and lightning accompanied the second, and there was a strong sulphurous smell.

The heavenly wonder editor was succeeded by another who gave the two young men a good deal of poignant anguish. They had a great deal of trouble in making the policy of their paper harmonize with the policy of the new plate editor. You see, the editorial columns of these young people's paper was composed of Jeffersonian Democracy inlaid with free trade mosaics, while the telegraphic page had become solidly Republican with high tariff trimmings. It was not even mugwump Republicanism, you know, but an offensive partisanship from away back. Every little district Republican convention was given a three-column account with pictures of all the ward politicians present, while the Democrat conventions were given the third story back, so to speak, without any electric bell to ring for ice water—even if a Democrat convention had any use for ice water. I remember that several times during the period when the young men were trying to find out whether they were supporting the administration or running a stalwart organ, the political editor would get in a ringing editorial calculated to knock the war tariff silly, while in another column the Chicago plate editor would bring forward statistics and figures by telegraph calculated to prove the political editor a liar. Nothing is better adapted to impart a blue and hazy perspective to a newspaper office than to have the deadly parallel column pulled on an editor in the same issue of his paper.

The agricultural page is another department of the plate concerns that it wouldn't harm a bit to light up with an occasional gleam of gray matter. It usually displays a luxuriant and untamed imagination and a breezy inaccuracy that would win for the compiler a conspicuous position in preparing affidavits of circulation for a metropolitan paper, but it is not calculated to promote practical farming. These two young men whom I alluded to used a plate agricultural page just once in their weekly edition, and it caused them more misery and wretchedness than anything else in their official career. The leading article, I think, was in regard to a patent elastic vulcanized rubber sheep cud, which at a pinch could be made out of old arctic overshoes, and on which even the highest priced sheep could be carried through the season at less than half the cost of the old style of pasturage. All through the next week prominent and respected agriculturists pulled copies of the paper on the editors and pointed out the article in question with the grim remark that they thought they would just drop in and see the darndest fool in America.

Illustrated articles on the effects of feeding ensilage to honey bees and the best methods of guarding against hoof rot in early cucumbers are not filling a long-felt want in the rural communities just at present.

Then, too, the publisher who begins to tamper with the stereotype agricultural page is not safe. He may think he has power to control the habit, but it is only a step to the use of the soul-destroying plate humorous page, and I know of nothing more debilitating or health-wrecking than the last. There is a dreamy harmony of dreariness about the plate matter humorous page that is calculated to make the most reckless reader feel depressed and gloomy. Its

average joke may be a good thing to mark the crowding years which have elapsed since it was first introduced to the public, but that is all. Its humor has become coagulated now, and after the patient reader has struggled through a column of it he turns to the crisp, hilarious humor of the railway time table for relief.

Then again, the illustrations in plate matter do not invariably harmonize with the general editorial idea of art. A good many of them look, somehow, as though they had been cut out by the army worm and early frosts. There seems to be a general reluctance on the part of the plate concerns to use more than one style of photographs per season, and the public taste becomes cloyed after gazing on the same mellow visage for a month or two. I know of one Michigan editor who has become round-shouldered this spring over a picture of Gen. Boulanger. Every day, no matter whether the heading referred to a Chinese earthquake or a Georgia murder, that diabolical cut would bob up in a cheery, devil-may-care way in the middle of the plate service. But there came one day when the picture did not appear, and the editor reposed belief in the blessed hope that it had fallen into the stereotyping kettle and been consumed. The hope was blasted. The next day the cut appeared again. It looked limp and exhausted, the military hat had been gouged off, and under it was the name of Melville W. Fuller, the newly-appointed chief justice, but it was Boulanger just the same.

There are various other little particulars in addition to those named that are open to criticism, but while the stereotype concerns are hastening to profit by our fraternal advice, we can accomplish a great deal for ourselves by making our papers as strong locally as possible with the aid of good, ordinary, catch-as-catch-can, gray matter, and by bearing in mind at all times the relative value of news. A stickful account of how the gasoline stove of our esteemed fellow-townsmen Deacon Smith (who, by the way, has a few bushels of fine seed potatoes for sale), exploded early Monday morning with a deafening crash and the hired girl, is of more value to your readers than an elaborately illustrated two-column plate article on the high-caste Hindoo child widows of India.

Let us plod along, writing burning editorials on the Presidential booms with one hand and reaching out after delinquent subscribers with the other, and when the weary gray matter sinks into a dreamless rest at last, plate matter will rise triumphant again, but it will be in the shape of a silver coffin plate inscribed to the virtues of the man who built up his town and took his pay in complimentary tickets to church sociables.

Pi.

By HIRAM POTTS, Grand Haven *Courier-Journal*.

Ladies and gentlemen and brethren of the Press:

I speak here to-day under very favorable auspices. The acoustics of this hall are such that I shall be able to make myself heard by but few of you. I always give the greatest satisfaction when I speak under these circumstances. [Laughter.] What I shall say will be strictly original. It was written especially for the occasion—by my wife. [Laughter.] I always have an aversion to speaking in public on the stage. Aversion—that is the word I believe—I'm not a college graduate, but I think it is. I'm always afraid some of the cigarette manufacturers will be gobbling up my picture. [Laughter.] I have been urged to go on the stage as Spartacus, the gladiator, but I won't. I shan't go on the stage as Spartacus, or any other 'cus,' [laughter], and I prefer to walk, any way. [Laughter.]

I am not here as a lyre, to sound the praises of Detroit, but I will say that the metropolis of Michigan has many things to be proud of. Among them is its balmy breezes. We enjoyed some of them yesterday afternoon, and I enjoyed some of them last evening. [Prolonged laughter from Sanhedrim men.] She has many other things to be proud of—elegant public and private buildings, manufacturing enterprises, great newspapers, the kindly feelings she entertains for the press and the Lime-Kiln Club. Also, her freedom from boodles Aldermen and the fact that she has fewer prominent citizens in State's prison—and office [laughter]—than any city of her size on the continent. There is a notable exception to the latter, however. There is but one Postmaster-General's office in the country, and she has a man in that. She also has another man who, if he does not mend his ways, is liable to get a four year's sentence to the White House. [Prolonged applause.] My subject has been published in the Indianapolis *Sentinel* as "Pi, by a Pi-ous Cuss." But as the matter has been "pied," why, pi it is, and I will cut my remarks short. [Great applause.]

In Memoriam.

By C. C. ALLISON, *Cassopolis Democrat*.

While the number of newspapers and consequently the number of the press brotherhood is rapidly increasing, the mortal change, called death, is every year decreasing our ranks and depriving us of some of our brightest and best members. It therefore becomes fitting that this body should, by appropriate action, express such sense of its loss as the occasion may call forth.

First among the list of honored dead, to whose memory the tribute of affection and esteem is rendered, is

MAJOR WILLIAM W. VAN ANTWERP,

Who expired at his residence in Jackson, Wednesday, December 21, 1887, aged 54 years. Major Van Antwerp was born in La Grange County, Indiana, October 4, 1833. When but four years of age his father died, and four years later, with his mother, he came to Cass County, Mich., where he took his novitiate in the art of printing, in that college from whence so many eminent men have graduated, the country printing office. He entered the office of the *Cass County Advocate* at Cassopolis at the age of 14 years as apprentice, where he served three years. From thence he went to Rochester, N. Y., working at job printing for about six years, when he enlisted in the regular army of the United States, serving for a period of eighteen months, with headquarters most of the time in Texas. Returning to Cassopolis, Mich., he purchased the *National Democrat*, the original paper of that place, the *Advocate*, having suspended, and published it until 1859. It was during this period that the writer of these lines received from him the first lessons in the art typographic, and ever found him a competent instructor, as well as faithful mentor and friend, the kind relations then sustained being maintained to the end of his busy and successful life. After disposing of his first newspaper venture, he went to Jackson and accepted the foremanship of the *Patriot*, at that time published by T. F. Bouton. Here he remained until the bugle call to arms, to preserve the Union, reawakened his military impulses, and he enlisted in the Fourth Michigan Cavalry, in which he served until the close of the war, being mustered out of service in July, 1865. A portion of the time he was attached to the staff of Maj.-Gen. James Wilson, and during his term of service was successively promoted to second Lieutenant, first Lieutenant, Captain, and eventually brevetted Major for gallantry on the field.

While a gallant soldier, doing his full duty, his newspaper instincts never deserted him, and his graphic descriptive letters to the *Detroit Free Press* were not the least valuable and interesting contributions to that paper during that historic period.

Returning to Jackson at the close of the war he purchased a half interest

in the *Patriot* of that city, taking the position of editor, which interest and position he retained to the time of his death. He was an enthusiastic member of the Grand Army and served as Commander of Edward Pomeroy Post, Jackson, for several terms.

Always a Democrat, his fealty to his party and devotion to his country was suitably recognized by his appointment as Postmaster of Jackson in 1885, a position which he capably and satisfactorily filled up to the time of his death.

As a political writer he was terse, vigorous and incisive, but eminently fair to opponents, never permitting his zeal to overcome his innate regard for the proprieties of life and the rights of others. As a good printer, a fair and able journalist, a brave soldier and an honest, conscientious man, he furnishes an example worthy of emulation by the craft.

GEORGE OVATT.

Of Chase, was born at Newton Falls, Trumbull County, Ohio, March 12, 1849, and died in March last after an illness of five days from a disease contracted in the army. He removed to Michigan in 1860, and enlisted in the army in 1863, serving with honor and credit until the close of the war, when he settled in Lake County, being one of the first settlers. He established the *Chase Eclips*, and remained the proprietor until his death. He was elected sheriff of the county for two terms, and was elected a member of the Legislature for 1885-6 and re-elected for 1887 and 1888 as a Republican. He was made Chairman of the Committee on Labor Interests and also a member of the Committee on Municipal Corporations in the latter body. A member of this committee testifies to his valuable aid during the last session in furthering and protecting the interests of the newspaper press in connection with bills reported to the Legislature by the law committee. He was a prominent member of the Masonic order, under whose auspices he was buried, and stood high in Odd Fellowship and Grand Army circles. As a soldier, journalist, legislator and citizen he did his duty faithfully and conscientiously and merits our last tribute of respect.

H. E. H. BOWEN,

Editor of the *Ann Arbor Democrat*, died at his home in that city, April 5, 1888. On the morning of his death he was on the streets as usual and went into a restaurant, where he sat at a table lunching, when he was seen to fall to the floor in a faint. He was picked up and was being carried home when he died on the way. He was born in Manchester, Washtenaw County, April 20, 1848, and consequently was 40 years of age at the time of his death. He was educated in the Ann Arbor High School, and subsequently entered the law department of the University, from which he graduated in 1863. For a while he was employed in business, and afterward purchased the *Ann Arbor Democrat*, which he published until February, 1870, when he went to Grand Rapids, engaging again in business. Upon returning to Ann Arbor he was employed at different times as correspondent of the *Chicago Times*, *Cincinnati Commercial*, and the *Detroit Post and Tribune*, the first two of which he contributed to up to the time of his death. In 1877 he was sent to the Common Council from the Third Ward and served on the board for two years. In 1879 he again took charge of the *Democrat* and edited the paper. He was an exceptionally bright and clever newspaper man, and brought his paper into the front rank of journalism.

WILLIAM J. STOUTENBURGH.

William J. Stoutenburgh was born in Berlin, Wayne county, Penn., Sept. 20th, 1833, and died at his home in Marlette, Mich., Sept. 23d, 1887, of apoplexy. His family moved to Wayne county, N. Y., while he was a child. He pursued academic studies at Palmyra, N. Y., under Dr. Eaton, and continued his studies later with his uncle, a congregational minister of New Jersey. He then entered Hamilton college, taking his sophomore and junior years at that institution, and went to Williams college for his senior year, graduating in 1861.

He preached with success, organized a church, and led the people in the building of a \$3,000 church, which has grown into a thriving charge of 190 members. While preaching at this place—Manchester church, of Geneva Presbytery—he met Celeste VanNest, and they were married in June, 1860, and went together to New York City, while he pursued his senior theological studies.

After his ordination he labored successively in Oaks Corners, N. Y., Manitowoc, Wis., Tecumseh, Birmingham and Lapeer, Mich., Wilmington, Ill., and Afton, Iowa. At Tecumseh he labored seven years. It was a church of 350 members, and while there the congregation built and paid for a \$32,000 house of worship. His labors on the field were great, and he allowed himself to labor beyond his strength, and the result was he was broken in health. Never since had he the vigor of his earlier years. He suffered from throat trouble and from shattered nerves, making continuous work in the ministry an impossibility, and so he sought another occupation. In November, 1884, he purchased the *Leader*, and moved to Marlette, where he and his family lived until the time of his death, he remaining publisher and proprietor of the paper until that time, still preaching occasionally.

On the day of his death he attended to his business duties as usual, but felt a chilliness and slight headache upon retiring, not sufficiently alarming, however, to cause any anxiety. The family were aroused by his loud, unnatural breathing, and medical aid was immediately summoned, but he expired before it arrived. The funeral services were held in the Presbyterian church, and the large attendance from home and abroad testified to the universal esteem and respect in which the deceased was held.

Regrets.

Letters of regret were received from the following persons:

J. C. Oroly, (Jennie June), J. Howard, Jr., Edgar W. (Bill) Nye, William Curtis, Hon. Roscoe D. Dix, and the *American Advertiser* as reporter, of New York; J. G. Buchanan, Hamilton, Ont., *Times*; Fred. S. Oaro, Mich., *Advertiser*; S. S. Cox, Washington, D. C.; Walter Q. Gray, Chicago, Ill.; Commissioner of Mineral Statistics C. D. Lawton; State Librarian Mrs. Harriet A. Tenney; J. H. P. Hugart, Grand Rapids; Gov. C. G. Lundberg and his daughters; Gen. W. H. Withington, Jackson; Peter Doran, Grand Rapids; Kilburn Knox, Milwaukee; E. Crofton Fox, Grand Rapids; Charles E. Smith, Cincinnati; W. L. Barnum, Chicago; Capt. C. Wheaton, Fort Wayne; C. M. Black, Fort Wayne; State Treasurer H. M. Alpin; E. W. Jones, Grand Rapids; Victor F. Lawson, *Chicago News*; William R. Locke, Toledo; B. R. W. Patterson, *Chicago Tribune*; W. K. Sullivan, *Chicago Journal*; C. Jones, *St. Louis Republican*; Geo. F. Prescott, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*; W. Harding, *Philadelphia Inquirer*; J. G. Wilson, New York; C. H. Wright, *Rochester Times*; H. S. New, *Indianapolis Journal*; H. C. Bunner, *New York Puck*; Whitelaw Reid, *New York Tribune*; Henry A. Griffin, *Cleveland Leader*; Melville Stone, Chicago; W. Stearns, *Adrian Press*; O. W. Rowland, *Pawnee True Northerner*; A. K. Burrows, *Port Austin Post*; Chas. E. Mason, *Grand Rapids Delta*; Fred Mackenzie, *Calumet and Red Jacket News*; H. S. Philbrick, *Middleton News*; Joseph W. Bancroft, *Hastings Church Helper*; J. P. W. Moore, *Ingham County Democrat*; Congressman Amos J. Cummings, *New York Sun*; Wilkinson & Howe, *Berrien County Journal*; E. H. Clement, *Bozeman Transcript*; Col. L. M. Dayton, Cincinnati; Col. H. A. Wheeler, Chicago.

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Bill) Nye, George
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; State Librarian
C. G. Luce and
Grand Rapids;
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Wayne; Col. H.
Jones, Grand
Toledo Blade;
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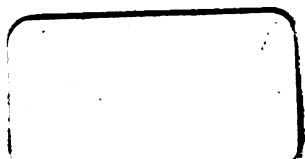
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION
AT THE
SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING,
HELD AT
DETROIT, MARCH 29-30, 1883,

WITH THE

Opening Address of Melville E. Stone of Chicago, Membership Roll
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NASHVILLE, MICHIGAN:
NEWS STEAM PRINT.
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OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT :

A. McMILLAN, Bay City.

VICE PRESIDENTS :

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SECRETARY :

ORNO STRONG, Nashville.

TREASURER :

FRED SLOCUM, Holly.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL.

Ainger, D. B., Republican, Charlotte.	Hopkins, J., Reporter, Sanilac.
Aldrich, A. J., Republican, Coldwater.	Hoskins, Edwin S., Leader, St. Louis.
Allison, C. C., Democrat, Cassopolis.	Ingersoll, Ward, Journal, Corunna.
Andrews, E. S., Enterprise, Williamston.	Johnson, J. V., Democrat, St. Louis.
Applegate, T. S., Times, Adrian.	Kedzie, D. H., Herald, Grand Haven.
Arnold, J. M., Christian Advocate, Detroit.	Kellogg, J. H., Good Health, Battle Creek.
Adams, G. L., Review, Fowlerville.	Kelly, E. J., Bill Poster, Pontiac.
Abbott, F. S., Review, Richmond.	King, J. W., Republican, Lansing.
Bailey, J. N., Argus, Ann Arbor.	Lewis, G. F., Saginawian, Saginaw.
Bailey, C. W., Monitor, Vicksburg.	McMillan, Archibald, Tribune, Bay City.
Beal, J. E., Courier, Ann Arbor.	Miller, L. C., Republican, Howell.
Beal, Rice A., Courier, Ann Arbor.	Nearpass, C. V., Forum, Whitehall.
Bennett, E. T., Press, Bay City.	Nellie, F. E., Monitor, Mt. Clemens.
Bissell, B. B., Republican, Albion.	Nelson, W. C., Enterprise, Northport.
Brearley, W. H., Evening News, Detroit.	Nesbitt, W. P., Herald, Big Rapids.
Brock, L. P., National, Ionia.	Nims, Chas. S., Jeffersonian, Lexington.
Broughton, F. W., Chronicle, Marshall.	O'Donnell, Jas., Citizen, Jackson.
Cannon, J. W., Globe, Oxford.	Osmun, Gil. R., Evening News, Detroit.
Carrier, Irving, Register, Ovid.	Phister, A. V., Advertiser, Hubbardston.
Chandler, Wm., Tribune, Cheboygan.	Potter, John M., Sentinel, Lansing.
Cobb, J. T., Grange Visitor, Schoolcraft.	Powell, E. R., Herald, Stanton.
Cook, Marshall L., Banner, Hastings.	Pond, C. V. R., Herald, Quincy.
Coleman, F. E., Monitor, Mt. Clemens.	Ricaby, Wm., Republican, St. Joseph.
Cortrell, E. W., Michigan Farmer.	Rose, E. O., Post, Grand Rapids.
DeLand, C. V., Herald, Saginaw.	Rowlson, H. B., Standard, Hillsdale.
Dennis, J. H., Journal, Hastings.	Saunders, Jos., Republican, Battle Creek.
Dodge, P. S., Clipper, Stanton.	Scripps, Jas. E., Evening News, Detroit.
Duncan, L. A., Republican, Niles.	Shakespeare, A. J., Gazette, Kalamazoo.
Eaton, Wm. L., Telegraph, Kalamazoo.	Shaw, E. O., Republican, Newaygo.
Esterling, Geo E., Standard, Ionia.	Shepard, Jas. M., Vigilant, Cassopolis.
Fairchild, J. K., Review, Harrisville.	Sherman, L. A., Times, Port Huron.
Fee, J. H., Times, Adrian.	Slocum, Fred., Advertiser, Holly.
Finn, Albert H., Argus, Capac.	Smith, C. V., Republican, Centerville.
Fitzgerald, J. W., Union, Ovid.	Smith, J. D., Republican, Howell.
Forsyth, Ed., Democrat, Cheboygan.	Smith, Robert, Journal, Ithaca.
Foster, Eugene, Record, Cedar City.	Stacy, S. C., Herald, Tecumseh.
Fowler, S. W., Herald, Manistee.	Steers, J. H., Review, Wayne.
Fox, T. B., Era, Rochester.	Stewart, W. E., Sentinel, South Haven.
Fuller, C. I., Herald, Gaylord.	Stone, J. C., News, Laingsburg.
Fuller, Otis, Republican, St. Johns.	Strong, Orno, News, Nashville.
Grabill, E. F., Independent, Greenville.	Sutton, Del T., Review, Richmond.
Greusel, Joseph, Free Press, Detroit.	Tefft, V. J., News, Mason.
Hamilton, M. D., Commercial, Monroe.	Thompson, W. H., Post & Tribune, Detroit.
Harris, S. D., Record, Linden.	Van Antwerp, W. W., Patriot, Jackson.
Henderson, Don C., Journal, Allegan.	Van Buren, Wm., Republican, Lansing.
Hine, Jas. W., Journal, Lowell.	Van Fossen, I. W., Free Press, Paw Paw.
Holden, J. S., Register, Farwell.	Warren, Joseph, Tribune, Bay City.
Holmes, John G., Record, Buchanan.	Westland, W. C., Indep't, Grand Ledge.
Hopkins, S. S., Observer, Romeo.	Woodard, Geo. L., Gazette, Litchfield.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be known as the MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE II.

The object of this Association shall be the promotion of the general interests of the press of the State of Michigan.

ARTICLE III.

Every bona fide editor or publisher, or person connected with the editorial or business management of a newspaper in this state, who shall pay into the treasury of this Association One Dollar as a membership fee, shall be considered a member of the Association during the year for which the membership fee has been paid.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer, soon after the close of each annual session, to send a postal card to every publisher in the state, who has not paid the annual fee, quoting the preceding part of this article and requesting him to pay into the Association treasury, the annual One Dollar membership fee.

By a two-thirds vote, the Association may admit as honorary members any persons who have been editors and publishers.

ARTICLE IV.

The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, three Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected at each annual meeting and shall hold their offices for one year, or until their successors shall be chosen.

The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall serve as an Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V.

The Annual Meeting shall be held upon call of the Executive Committee on such day, in each year, as said Executive Committee may determine, they giving due notice of the same.

Special meetings may be called by the President, at the request of any ten members of the Association, or by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI.

By-Laws regulating its proceedings may be adopted by a majority of the Association.

ARTICLE VII.

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting.

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Michigan Press Association was held in Merrill Hall, City of Detroit, beginning on the evening of March 29th and continuing through the following day. The meeting was not as largely attended as was expected, only thirty-six editors being present, which was owing, undoubtedly, to the nearness of spring elections and the rigorous demands of aspiring politicians for "slips." However the faithful 86 unanimously agreed that the meeting was one of the most interesting and pleasant ever held, and that "it was good to be there."

The feature of the evening session of the 29th was the address delivered by Melville E. Stone, of the Chicago *Daily News*, entitled "The Model Newspaper." Promptly at 7:30 the meeting was called to order by the President of the Association, James E. Scripps, of the Detroit *Evening News*, who introduced to the Association W. S. Thompson, mayor of the city, who welcomed the Association to Detroit in a neat speech as follows:

THE MAYOR'S WELCOME.

"I am fully aware of the power of the press. Some years ago when a humble member of the common council, I incurred the animosity of one of the editors of a morning newspaper, and he belabored me lustily day after day. One day I met him and said: 'Colonel, if you don't stop abusing me, you'll make me a mayor yet.' That prophecy has been fulfilled. More, I aspired to be President of the Detroit Base Ball Club, and accomplished that ambition, even. Of my aspiration to be collector of the port of Detroit, I will say nothing, for I am still sore on that point. It taught me the power of the state press. I wish you would come and see us oftener. If you should get into trouble while here, I shall be pleased to assist you. You are welcome to Detroit."

"THE MODEL NEWSPAPER."

The President then introduced Mr. Stone to the Association, who spoke as follows:

MEMBERS OF THE MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION:

I confess to you that it was with no little hesitation that I accepted the kind invitation of your President, and it is with no little diffidence that I appear before you. The subject upon which, by the proprieties of the occasion, I am directed to express some opinion, is one of such large proportions that it may not be treated sans peur by one who at best has hardly laid off the swaddling gowns of the profession. That which, began in the royal gazette simply to proclaim the edicts of the king, has, in this country, become the great record of the will and wish of each of the fifty millions of sovereigns who govern the land. It is not given to any one man to master this business, for in its very nature unfettered journalism stands for all the myriad ideas which crowd and cram the brains of all the people. I have no mind to enter upon a panegyric upon the journalist; it is enough to say of him that he sits enthroned upon the very pinnacle of power in the American economy. The dignity

of his office—and I exaggerate nothing nor set down aught in flattery—is incomparably greater than any civil or military holding. The American newspaper is thoroughly unique. It is unlike the newspaper of any other country, and necessarily so. It is essentially an American affair, the product of our peculiar political and social soil; an inevitable consequence of our form of government. It is the right arm of our personified liberty, the tongue of American thought. Wisely managed, it is the hope of the republic; imprudently conducted, it bears more menace to the commonwealth than any other force. De Toqueville says of it that "it constitutes a singular power, so strangely composed of mingled good and evil that liberty could not live without it, and public order can hardly be maintained against it." It is almost omnipotent, and well-nigh omniscient. In Russia, the newspaper is the mouthpiece of the Czar, for when it crosses the purposes of the autocrat it is liable to seizure and suppression. In Germany and Austria a similar, though modified, condition of censorship exists. Even in France, with its republic, and with all the fierce notions of freedom held by the people, there is no journalism worthy the name. The republic is too young, the common people are too ignorant, the shadow of despotism has been too recently dispelled by the sunlight to enable the newspaper to assume its true prerogatives. In Great Britain, too, near as it approaches to our idea of free government, the newspaper is very different from the American type. The system of caste has much to do with holding the true journalistic idea in check. There is a wide gulf between the educated, wealthy, and leisured classes on the one hand and the toiling masses on the other. The peculiar mission of the newspaper is not suited to either class—it is below the one and above the other. Your leisured class are content to find their opinions made to order in the reviews; your toiling classes look to their betters for opinions, or are satisfied to go without opinions, as is more often the case. The newspapers of all Europe are devoted almost exclusively to local interests. In France they are mere handbills, in each of which some publicist gives his views upon the question of the hour. In England they rise to the very questionable dignity of being the recorders and secretaries of parliament, the courts of law, the racing courses, and such other routine affairs as command attention.

It is in America alone that the newspaper has attained its full and proper growth. Here it is we have journalism "whose end is to hold, as 'twere, the mirror up to nature; to show virtue her own feature, scorn her own image, and the very age and body of the time is form and pressure."

It is by no means the creature of accident. Its utility was recognized at a very early day in the colonies, and its influence has widened and deepened with each succeeding year.

A government resting upon the suffrage of the people presupposes a populace sufficiently intelligent to vote wisely. To insure such intelligence a medium for the interchange of ideas is inevitable, and the newspaper furnishes this medium. That there should be no restraint laid upon the freest possible interchange of ideas, two principles were laid down at the outset and have been substantially adhered to, to this day. First, that there should be no censorship of the press; and, second, that there should be no patent or monopoly granted in the business of making newspapers. Any man, therefore, is now and for a century has been, so far as this country was concerned, at liberty to found and publish a newspaper, and he was free to print therein anything he might desire without fear or molestation at the hands of the government. Two important causes led the patriot fathers to this view at the beginning: The illustration of the power of the press as a corrector of the evils of government, furnished in the Junius letters, which appeared in the Public Advertiser, in London, in 1769 and '70, and the obnoxious stamp acts passed in the reign of George III., and which furnished the first provocation for the revolt of the colonies. It is worthy of note that from 1776 to 1855 the newspapers of Great Britain were suffering the imposition of a stamp duty, while the press of America was free of government tax. There is abundant reason, therefore, for the marvelous development of the American newspaper. It has grown upon choice soil, and has been nurtured in the sunlight. The plant is hardy, for it has been forced to live by its wit and upon its merit. Free from censorship, untrammelled by decrees of state, the exponent of the views of no one man, but of the multitude, not the wearisome repository of documentary evidence, the American newspapers of to-day are the very "abstracts and brief chronicles of the time," dealing with and ministering to a cosmopolitan people—a people having ties which bind them to all lands, and interested in the happenings in every quarter of the habitable globe—educating and entertaining a thrifty, busy, intelligent, self-governing people, standing between them and their servants and between them and all other peoples, and no man can estimate their power nor measure adequately the responsibilities which rest upon those who conduct them. It is of this business of making American newspapers in its various relations, as a commercial enterprise, as a moral and educational agency, and as a factor in our civil government, to which our attention is invited to-night. How to manage our ventures, to the end that we may meet all of our financial, social, moral, and civic obligations is the problem which, I take it, we are all anxious to solve. Let us then consider what we owe to ourselves and the public, and, perhaps, in closing, I may suggest some reciprocal obligations which I imagine the public should recognize respecting the newspapers.

And, first of all, we owe it alike to ourselves and to the people that we should know something of the business in which we are engaged. I dare say there is not one among the constituents of any man present who is not thoroughly convinced that he could run your paper better than you can. Some one has said that we are a nation of orators. If I should judge from the people who crowd their unsolicited advice and admonition upon me, I should say we were a nation of editors. It matters not that the wrecks of ill-starred ventures are strewn on every side. There are more schemes in heaven and earth than ever dreamt of in your philosophy, Horatio. People who despair of running a hotel, difficult as the undertaking is admitted to be, are not at all abashed at the dangers incident to the conduct of a paper. Mark you, I do not say it is difficult. On the contrary, given the proper conditions, and, perhaps, the founding of a newspaper is as easy as the public imagine. Given the opportunity and the common sense to grapple with it, and the newspaper business is not very different from the dry goods or grocery trade. But the difficulty lies, in nine cases out of ten, in a deplorable failure to apply ordinary business principles to the undertaking. I think it was Charles Dudley Warner who said that that paper which was run simply for the purpose of making money was likely to be the best paper. Well, he was right in his idea, although I think he might have put it in more acceptable phrase. If he had said that an editor, to be successful, should have no other aim than to make a newspaper, perhaps it would have been better. A paper should be the end and never a means

to an end. The man who founds a newspaper to bull or bear the stock market, or to aid the election of a congressman, a president, or a political party, is likely to make a failure, and you will pardon me if I say I think he ought not to succeed. As I remarked at the outset, there is no higher calling than the editor's, if rightly considered. A writer in a recent issue of the *North American Review* takes occasion to say that "journalism has become, very generally, the voice and echo of a party—the very slave of the 'ring,' that leprous excrescence of modern municipalities. There is no longer," says he, "a patient, lucid discussion of underlying principles, as in the days of the old Federalist. Party organizations have come to find their focal points no longer in principle and measures, but in men and spoils. Patriotism seems to have utterly gone out of politics, and left ravenous lust for office, plunder, and power as the sole centripetal organizing forces. Journalism cannot rise higher than its fountain springs of subsistence. It, in turn, is in subjection to cliques of traders and manufacturers, and rings of stock gamblers and monopolists. The great dailies are often reduced to the business of as many organs, turning out their prescribed ditties according to the pleasure of the master grinders. How many of them shamelessly, even ostentatiously, wear the sinister livery of servitude to this or that money king? What pregnant secrets of partnership and mastership might not be excavated from among the fiscal records of these lordly and imperious establishments? * * * Clearly, a power greater than journalism has thrust a golden ring through its nose and leads it, exclusive chafel and creature. And what can journalism, manacled and branded as private property, or in bondage to its advertisers, say bravely, or worthily, or trustfully, about anything, so long as its fetters chafe and constrain!"

Now, this estimable gentleman, whose critique is, as a whole, a fair and timely one—save that he is perhaps a trifle extravagant in the dark colors of his picture—must have read the history of American journalism to little purpose. The tendency of the last twenty-five years has been very markedly in the direction of independence. Editors have learned in the rigorous school of experience the wisdom of controlling their own establishments. Even the elder Bennett proved a wretched failure so long as he depended upon the favors of politicians and capitalists. The story of his misadventure in the publication of the *Pennsylvanian*, should convince any one of the folly and hopelessness of such struggles. It was not until he had abandoned Martin Van Buren, and freed himself from all political entanglements, without a dollar, with his office in his hat, with the head of a flour barrel for his desk, but as his own master, that he entered upon his marvelously successful career. His biographer says: "There was not even a dream then of a new order of journalism that should stand superior to and independent of the degrading influences of party spirit." Frederick Hudson, the ablest historian of American journalism, asserts that the progress of the press toward perfect freedom from restraint has been surprisingly rapid. Even the politicians and monopolists are beginning to perceive that it is an unprofitable thing to try to run "organs," and it is an open secret that the effort of two or three railway kings to operate through two or three New York journals has been abandoned. These men should have foreseen the primal and axiomatic rule of the newspaper business, viz: That no man's work passes current at more nearly its actual value than the American editor's. You may have quack doctors, quack lawyers, quack ministers; they may deceive you as to the extent of their knowledge, or as to their real views, and may thrive. You can have no quack editor. Whatever he appears to be he is. Day by day he reveals himself to the public. A thousand or ten thousand men sit in judgment upon him; measure and weigh his thoughts, words, and he must abide their verdict. He must have his opinion and comment ready for every topic furnished by the kaleidoscope of current history. There can be no shirking, no delay. He must say something, and on that something, said in a moment, he must stand judgment. His censorship is the censorship of the great public. And he is necessarily honest. Now, I do not mean that there are no dishonest editors, but I do mean that they cannot be dishonest and at the same time successful. This keen witted public is not to be tricked or deceived. To no men does the Divine injunction: "Be sure your sin will find you out," come with greater force than to editors. Therefore I say that purely from a commercial standpoint, with success as the single aim, it is all essential that the man who founds a newspaper shall be the one who understands the business, that his newspaper shall be the sole object of his ambition and not the means to some other end: that he shall be independent and honest.

But you say, perhaps, that to say a man should understand the newspaper business is to beg the question. And perhaps you are right. For I know of nothing so much like the *ignis fatuus*; nothing which eludes definitions; so slips away from analysis and explanation, as that something which constitutes the chief secret of the successful conduct of a newspaper. For want of an answer to the conundrum, some one has replied that "editors were born, not made."

The motto which for so many years was emblazoned on the curtain of old Drury Lane theatre: "We study to please," is, conceal it how we may, the ruling motive in the life of the journalist. The man who has mastered that most difficult of all lessons, how to gratify the caprice of the great public, has prepared himself to surmount all the important obstacles in the way of conducting a successful newspaper. But as the caprice of the average mind is a shoreless sea, so he who would ride it will find little to aid him in either compass or rudder. I know of no formula which will go far toward educating one to measure the public taste, to perceive and grasp and satisfy the infinitude of human thoughts and desires. We can enjoy no higher hope in this direction than to arrange a few suggestions which may prove of some assistance.

Manifestly, the first office of the independent editor is that of purveying news. Perhaps some of you have imagined that your editorial departments were of chief consequence. Not so. To gather the news of the day, to measure its value, to sort it out and sift it and prune it, and to present it in fair and impartial, time saving, and yet satisfactory shape, requires ability of a much higher order than that of the opinion writers. And it is of infinitely greater importance that the information which a paper gives be correct than that its opinions be correct. Time was, when news was scarce and difficult to obtain, that the editorial columns constituted substantially all there was of a newspaper. But that day has long since gone by. And to-day people buy newspapers for the news and take pride in forming their own judgments. And what is this news? What are the standards by which one may judge of its importance? What rules may he adopt to govern him in the gathering and editing of it? Primarily, viewing the newspaper simply as a business, and disregarding for the moment all limitations which may be put upon his work by conscience or his

duty to his fellow men, news is any information respecting the rolling globe and its inhabitants which the reader may desire to possess. The word "news," which we have used by common consent to distinguish this class of information, inadequate as it is as a definition, offers a suggestion of an idea. To be news a piece of information must be novel, unexpected, unlooked for, not commonplace. The man who decries the sensational newspaper is guilty of a gross solecism. That there are proper limitations upon an editor's right to publish anything he chooses, both in law and morals, I do not doubt. But that the value of a piece of news and its fitness for publication is properly measured by its tendency and capacity to create a sensation, is, to my mind, an axiom which no man of ordinary sense will undertake to dispute. It is only when the editor's duty as a news publisher is countervailed and overshadowed by other proper considerations that he is at all justified in suppressing news of a highly sensational character. Dealing with the newspaper purely in its relation to the public as a dispenser of information—and this is its most important function—I should say that the first among the indicia which are to enable us to judge if a piece of information is news, is its fitness to create a sensation in the minds of our readers and its value is primarily proportionate to its sensation-producing power. I ask you to bear in distinct remembrance the fact that I am now viewing the journalist in his character of a tradesman, as a trafficker in information, not as a teacher, or preacher, nor even as a conservator of public good. I shall take occasion to speak of those limitations upon his business later. But in whatever aspect you view him, I am still persuaded that the question whether a piece of information is calculated to awaken the emotions is the first one to answer in determining its worth for the purposes of publication.

But following this lead we shall still encounter innumerable difficulties in defining "What is news?" and in discovering the standards by which to judge of the relative value of two or more pieces of news. Broadly, we are writing in our news columns the history of our times. Anything which goes to make up that history has its significance. But as no man has the time nor the inclination to know it all, and as no two communities care to know precisely the same things, and as the tastes and interests of the people are constantly changing, we find that the standards differ with all varying conditions under which we live and edit and print. As the wants of the busy man are unlike those of the gentleman of leisure, as the interests of the people of Detroit bear but a partial resemblance to those of the people of Chicago, as that which absorbs the attention of this impulsive people to day is not at all the subject which absorbed their thought on yesterday, we must recognize all of these elements and their modifying influences when we attempt to generalize our ideas into an opinion. We must also recognize the process of evolution which is going on alike in the intellectual and material worlds—a process which has affected, and is affecting, not only the political and social and commercial relations, and therefore the needs of those whom we minister to, but perhaps in even a greater degree has modified our ability to gather and supply the article in which we traffic. Half a century ago it was very easy to answer the question, What is news? It was the day of the stage-coach, the post-horse, and the sailing vessel. A Chinese wall surrounded each community. It was scaled by so few tid-bits of information from the exterior world that the task of the editor consisted simply in gathering all he could, and in printing it. His constituency was limited in like manner, and was thoroughly homogeneous. Suddenly, in an instant, as if by the wave of a magician's wand, the scene shifts, and the journalist finds himself in a new world, the master of unlimited and illimitable possibilities, the subject of unlimited and illimitable responsibilities. He, who yesterday hungered and thirsted for any crumbs and morsels that might fall his way, now sits the opulent host at a table so bountifully laden that he finds it difficult to decide what to offer his guests. All barriers are removed, all doors unlocked, all things offer tribute, and he has become the very sovereign of opportunity. Have you thought of the marvelous rapidity with which this change was wrought? Some of you, younger than I, were eye-witnesses. The first successful American power-press and Peter Cooper's railway engine came into use simultaneously in 1830. These inventions opened the doors to circulation. The British stamp duty was reduced from four pence to a penny in 1836; Pitman's phonography was given to the world in 1837; Bruce's type-casting machine was patented, and regular ocean steamship travel began with the sailing of the *Sirius* in 1838. Prof. Morse's telegraph line connected Washington and Baltimore in 1844; Richard Hoe produced his rotary press, increasing the possibilities of press product from 5,000 to 20,000 copies an hour in 1846; paper mache stereotyping appeared in France in 1848, and Field's first cable was laid, and the manufacture of paper from straw and wood began in 1854. Thus, in two decades the stage-coach gave way to the railway, the sailing vessel yielded to the steamship, the post-horse was supplanted by the telegraph, and plenary reporting, fast printing, and cheap paper came tumbling upon us with puzzling rapidity. The opportunities for news publishing were increased tenfold; the opportunities for news gathering were increased a thousandfold.

It is not surprising that journalists were unprepared to deal with this changed condition of affairs. It is by no means strange that they were slow in adapting themselves to the new order of things, nor that in doing so they frequently blundered. Perhaps it was natural that the last thing they should come to appreciate was the need of the standards by which to measure the value of news. Perhaps it was also natural that they should adopt some false standard. Like beggars who were offered whatever they might desire from a storehouse of riches, their first impulse was to gather up everything that bore a resemblance to news and print it. It did not occur to them that the petty theft which had been, for want of anything better, a good piece of news, was now valueless, because a thousand events of more consequence could be reported through the improved condition of facilities. Their appetites had been whetted by long abstinence, and now that they had plenty, they fairly stuffed themselves. Mr. Bennett, who founded the *New York Herald* in 1835, inaugurated this era of quantity. His motto was: "All the news," and he deserves great credit for the enterprise he displayed in his endeavor to secure the most complete account of every conceivable thing. As, through improved printing and distributing facilities, his balliwick enlarged and his circulation grew he divided his paper into departments, until it practically became several newspapers on one sheet. Thus, for his banking constituency, his financial columns furnished a complete newspaper, while the marine department was another newspaper for the people engaged in shipping; indeed, each class in the community was furnished a department, and each department was expected to compete with and outstrip any journal which made a specialty of the topics considered. For instance, the lawyer was furnished more com-

plete reports by the Herald than he could find in any law journal. Then, practically all that was asked concerning a piece of information was what department shall it be assigned to, and if it belongs in no department now in the Herald, a new one must be established. This work of classification was called editing, and proved a very simple kind of work.

But it was soon discovered that, unless some limitation was put upon this policy, the papers would expand to such proportions as to render them unprofitable. Then the process of discrimination began, and editors began to talk of the relative values of a piece of news. Perhaps the most natural theory—certainly it took the strongest hold upon the profession—was the absurd one that the cost of procuring an item determined its value. Upon this notion, a telegram which cost six cents a word was exactly twice as important as one which cost three cents a word. Now, the truth in nine cases out of ten was precisely reverse; and yet you will be surprised to learn this false standard is more generally followed to-day than other. It has the merit that upon this standard you can measure your news with mathematical accuracy, and without fear that you will err in judgment.

Another no less ridiculous plan was to put certain events arbitrarily into the category of news items, and to rule others quite as arbitrarily out. Yet this was and is by no means an uncommon rule. Thus, a great many editors will tell you, without the slightest care as to details, that reports of hangings, prize-fights, murders, suicides, fires, and failures always possess news-value of the highest character, while the report of a doctrinal sermon or the history of a great moral reform is seldom of consequence, in a newspaper point of view. Now, this theory has a germ of proprietary back of it; yet, in practice, it very often leads us to conclusions which are altogether unsound. Measured by the standard I have suggested—its sensation-producing power—the story of a prize-fight in which the principals are unknown and the circumstances commonplace, may be as worthless as a five-dollar drunk. I am still persuaded that the first question to be answered is whether your information, let it concern what it may, will attract attention, excite interest, create a sensation.

Of course there is much in the way of information which a newspaper is forced to publish which is not news of a highly sensational order. This finds its way into the columns of a journal on purely utilitarian grounds. That which is expected, yet is sought for, as the commercial and law reports, the proceedings of legislative bodies, and all that we in the office call "routine," is of this class. For such matter the standard is manifest; that piece of news which will prove of the greatest use to the greatest number takes highest rank. This is the second test to be applied to determine the value of news. That which furnishes neither pleasure nor profit to the reader certainly has no proper place in the newspaper.

And this brings us to consider the responsibilities which environ the editor and cast their shadows over all his work, to inquire briefly what it is that he may not publish, on the ground that his readers will not be profited thereby. And I think it will be found that the editor who recognizes and appreciates and observes these social and moral obligations, is the one who alone may prove permanently successful. To draw the line and say: "Thus far shalt thou go, and no farther," is not an easy undertaking. Men differ, and differ honestly, in their notions of what it will benefit the people to read. Time was when the whole church declared the bible an unsafe book to put in the hands of laymen; to-day a great fraction of the church say it is the one book which should be known and read by all men. At best, and in the last analysis, an editor's duty to his fellow men, like his duty to his Maker, must be left very largely to his own sense of the properties, and to his own conscience. A few general rules of conduct are acceptable, and have the governing force of common observance. His responsibilities are commensurate with his influence. And this is a remark which I cannot emphasize too forcibly. It is a feature of the newspaper business which I feel is too lightly appreciated. So long as it suits our purpose, or when reminded of this responsibility, we are accustomed to throw ourselves back upon the theory that we are simply engaged in a private business, the sole object of which is money-making. This is not true, and our own practices show that we do not recognize it as true. If it were true, if we were simply tradesmen and nothing more, how many, think you, of all the extraordinary special privileges which the public now accord to us would we be forced to surrender? As mere marketmen, how long should we be permitted to assume the role of licensed Jack Sheppards, and cry "halt and deliver" to every man, great and small, who happens to have news which we require? How long should we be suffered to go anywhere, do anything, invade all sanctuaries, and outrage all proprieties in the name of our profession! How soon would the words, "The Press," cease to be an "open, sesame!" in every department of life. It is only because at a certain point the newspaper ceases to be a mere peddler's cart for the purchase and sale of goods, and becomes an influence, that merchants and ministers, lawyers and legislators, and indeed every citizen of the country, pays heed to the imperious and arrogant demands of our tribe. What would you say of your grocer if he should rouse you at midnight and hold you shivering in your night clothes at an open door for an hour, to ask if you knew where he could secure a good article in butter and eggs? Yet the reporter will do this in the name of journalism, and the victim admits the wisdom of compliance. And you and I, and every editor in all this land, exact these privileges, in greater or less degree, and every time we do it we proclaim ourselves something more than mere tradesmen.

Now, in common fairness, if not in ethics, are we not bound to recognize the responsibilities growing out of this position of influence and power which we occupy? Is it fair, or just, or decent that this dear public, which has proved so willing and abject a slave, should receive no consideration at our hands? Shall we treat it as if it had no rights we were at all bound to respect, no privacies which we might not ruthlessly disturb, no hard-earned characters which we might not wantonly blast, no blushing innocence resting securely within the sacred walls of home which we might not taint and poison with the indecency and obscenity of the brothel? I tell you I had rather take my preeses and pitch them into Lake Michigan, and go begging all my days, than to stain my soul with such an abuse of power. Let us have fearless journalism, let us attack and expose and condemn wrong-doing, let us call a spade a spade. I have no faith in Horace Greeley's assertion that personalities are the bane of American journalism. I believe in personalities. I believe in hot personalities when the occasion demands. I believe in sensational journalism, journalism in keeping with the spirit of our times and our people—nineteenth century, lightning-fed and lightning-printed journalism, a journalism nerved to the highest pitch. That which I do not believe in is careless,

reckless, impertinent, and party journalism. It is a reproach to our profession and a curse to the country. And there is a great deal too much of it. There are too many men in the newspaper business who disregard Davy Crockett's motto, "Be sure you are right and then go ahead." Having the power to do about as they please, and fully conscious of their power, they jump to conclusions and cut and slash, with little care as to whether their assault is just or unjust, and utterly heedless as to the consequences. The atrocity of this act, if the iron has entered the soul of an innocent man, is immeasurable. The man who has done it is a coward and a wretch. But the chances are that, if he finds he has made a mistake, he will still take refuge in the omnipotence of his profession, and refuse to make fair and manly reparation. An editor worthy of his position feels that his business is at best fraught with great and constantly recurring danger of doing people injustice, and if convinced of his error he is only too anxious to make amend. I never see a frank and ample apology in a newspaper that I do not honor its editor. I know it is said that this phase of journalism is inseparable from the hasty methods now adopted for news gathering. It is not true. We may admit that there is more liability to do injustice than formerly, but it is not the unavoidable, but the avoidable, against which the public very rightly protest.

Nearly allied to this careless journalism is the impertinent journalism. And there is a good deal of this also. A great many young men, with starting beards and a poor smattering of general information, imagine that as they scale the journalistic heights they should bear a banner with this strange device: Impertinence. Now don't confound impertinence with a very proper and commendable zeal for obtaining proper information. They are widely different, and if you will think a moment you will recognize that difference. Here is a sample of what I call impertinent journalism: The other day a daily newspaper in Chicago printed a news paragraph in the following words: "Dr. Blank (I omit the name) has just married an old and ugly woman for her money." Now what if he had—was it anybody's business but that of the contracting parties? And they were probably content. One secured social recognition and the other, says the paragraph, got money. Who wonders that the public complain of a press that will do such a thing?

But meaner and more despicable is the nasty journalist. Because his claim that his sheet is a newspaper gives him license to print those things which Anthony Comstock would step on if published in any other way, he becommes and besmears our firesides with impurity. In the name of News, he finds his way to your home and mine, to debauch our innocents. I have no words to fitly characterize the scoundrel. In my own office I have posted this rule:

"Nothing shall appear in the columns of the Daily News which a young lady may not with propriety read aloud before a mixed company."

And I will discharge any man who violates it.

I said that a man must observe his responsibilities to be successful. It would not be difficult to point you to a paper in my own city which has achieved an extensive circulation among the lovers of reckless and filthy journalism, but has been confronted every time it has sought an advertisement with the remark: "It is not a family paper; it is not admitted to the fireside. To patronize it would injure me with good people." What was gained in circulation did not compare with the loss in reputation, influence, and advertising. I could enforce the argument by telling you more of it, but I do not choose to.

We have now, I hope, some general notion of what news is, and some idea of the standards by which we are to determine what to print and what not to print. If it bears upon the history of the times, if it will excite attention, and if the reading of it will benefit the public, then it is news; if it lack either of these elements it is not news, nor, in my judgment, should it have any place in a newspaper. Speaking of the history we are writing, do not suppose that I mean simply the story of what governments are doing, but that larger history of which Mr. Herbert Spencer sees so great need—that which embraces in its picture the social life of the people. Indeed, there is some reason for thinking that we devote too much attention to affairs of state and too little to those things which concern the people. There are really few things more agreeable or more profitable than well-written pen sketches illustrative of the every day life of the common citizen. But the one urgent demand of the hour among American journalists is for men capable of good writing. We have a great many journalistic constables, who exhibit wonderful zeal and ingenuity in the pursuit and capture of the news item. The number of journalistic tailors who can clothe the item and make it presentable is limited. And this reminds me to say that after you have learned what news is, and have come to understand how to compare one piece of information with another so as to determine their relative importance, it is none the less desirable that you should know how to present your news to your readers in attractive form. First, it should be well reported, and, second, it should be well edited. As Mr. Warner put it in his address before the Social Science association: "Two papers may have exactly the same important intelligence, identically the same dispatches; the one will be called bright, attractive, 'newy,' the other dull and stupid." This means that the latter is the victim of bad reporting or bad editing, or both. We have now reached a time when the wonderful impetus given to news gathering by the inventions and discoveries of forty years ago has exhausted itself. The era of quantity is going out and the era of quality is coming in. The public no longer asks how many reporters and how many correspondents has that paper in its employ, and how much news does it gather, for with the facilities now offered the poorest paper can have more news than it wants for the asking. What the public now requires is more care in reporting and more care in editing, to the end that the reader shall not be forced to pore over unimportant and trivial information to find the important. And to my mind this is the field for rivalry in the next twenty-five years. And the secret of success will be not more in seeing that you have all the news than in seeing to it that your news is sifted and pruned, and sorted and arranged. Mr. Whitelaw Reid expressed this judgment several years ago. He said:

"We shall not have more news. The world is ransacked for it now. Earth, sea, and air carry it to us from every capital, from every people, from every continent, and from every island. We shall not have bigger newspapers; they are bigger now than a busy people can read. We shall have better newspapers, the story better told, better brains employed in the telling; briefer papers, papers dealing with the more important of current matters in such style and with such fascination that they will command the widest interest. There will be more care and ability in selecting, out of the

myriad of things you might tell, the things that the better people want to be told, or ought to be told. There will be greater skill in putting these things before them in the most convenient and attractive shape. Judgment in selecting the news, genius in telling it—that is the goal for the highest journalistic effort in the future. In making a newspaper, the heaviest item of expense used to be the white paper. Now it is the news. By and by, let us hope, it will be the brains."

The president of your association, Mr. Scripps, had reached a similar conclusion at least two years ago. But, my friends, perfect reporters are not easy to secure. The talent required is so peculiar that even money will not always purchase it. The accomplished reporter is a *Vidocq*, a *Macauley*, and an expert job-printer rolled in one. He must know how to find his news, how to put it in words, and then he must have some idea as to how it will look in type. I have in mind a man who, having a nose for news, and being a master of rhetoric, is nevertheless a typographical idiot, and, consequently, a failure.

But, now, as to the arrangement of news. How shall we display our wares in our shop so that the public will see what we have, and feel an inclination to enjoy it? With all the marvelous development of the past half-century has come a corresponding increase in the number of subjects which engross a man's attention. He is at once forced into this predicament: His desire to be informed is constantly expanding, while the time which he can spare for reading the newspaper is being steadily reduced. There is, therefore, a pressing need for the time-saving characteristic, here as well as elsewhere. Yet it is all-important that, both in quantity and quality, every newspaper shall provide for the wants of the reader, and, indeed, give him a surfeit. These rules must be so applied that if your reader has but three minutes to devote to you, those minutes shall be well employed, and even at the end of that brief period he shall feel that he has been gratified and benefited. The elements of the newspaper being carefully selected and properly prepared, must be combined into a harmonious whole. And there is one principle inseparable from harmony everywhere which will aid in this task. If you are pasting a picture, an artist will tell you there must be somewhere within it a climax to which all other points in the piece hold a subordinate relation, else it is a daub and not art. The eye cannot endure two focal points at the same instant. So with music. So with the operations of the mind. Its capacity for observation and perception is limited primarily to one subject at a time, and whatever else is within the range of mental vision at that moment sustains a subordinate relation. Let us apply this view to the make-up of a newspaper. Let us recognize the fact that, as constituted, people do not think of two things at a time. Whenever your reader picks up a paper, his attention is absorbed by one topic, and all other topics are of minor consequence. It is also true that communities are aroused and deeply interested, as a rule, in one and the same thing at the same time. Well, in arranging a paper this should be borne in mind, and that one absorbing topic should be given the most conspicuous column and spot. Everything bearing upon it, or obtainable concerning it, should be given until it is exhausted, and every other line in the sheet should be subordinated. If the same topic continues to be the ruling sensation, it should have first place in every issue until public interest in it is replaced by interest in some new topic. Even then it should not be ignored, but something concerning it should find a place in the paper until the public feels that there is nothing more to know about it. Then, too, as a rule, public attention is not thoroughly aroused in an instant, but is the subject of some growth. I think the criticism which may justly be passed upon a large percentage of our daily newspapers is this: They are trying to print too great a variety of news; they fail to appreciate the fact that their readers are thinking of only one thing at a time; they destroy the harmony of their picture by attempting to attract attention to several subjects in equal measure at the same instant; they confuse rather than entertain. A few topics well considered by a newspaper will prove infinitely more satisfactory than an ocean full of trifles.

The lessons we have yet to learn are numerous and important. I think they refer to the quality of our matter rather than to its quantity. We need more and better brains in our reporting and editing departments. And so I ask you to consider whether it is not about time for us to rid ourselves what may be called the "Smart Aleck" type of journalism! I once asked a young man his idea of the city department of a metropolitan daily, and he summed it up in three words: "To raise hell." At whatever cost, in whatever way! Now is it not time to take another view of our business? To admit that there are some things which we do not know, and that there are some things which we have no right to do! To concede that at best our treatment of great questions is superficial, and that frequently we are confronted with questions which we are not qualified to treat at all? Is there not altogether too much arrogance and too little earnest purpose to do right about our people? Is not this idea that: "I am Sir Oracle! and when I open my lips, let no dog bark," carried to a greater length than the condition of affairs will warrant? We are not all intellectual giants simply because we run newspapers. Far from it! We have a work to do; it is an honorable work; a work which, if rightly done, will reflect credit upon ourselves and great good upon our times, but it is a very difficult work. Let us demean ourselves with a dignity becoming such a work. It is not the highest mission of an editor to be a braggart, to vaunt his power on every street corner, and at every cross-road. It is not the fittest goal for his ambition that he may reach a point where he can extort railway passes and circus tickets, can destroy character or peddle obscenity. The newspaper business has some other objects than these. And it occurs to me that it behooves us like sober men to begin to appreciate it. To leave off this ceaseless endeavor to exhibit and illustrate our autocracy, and to apply ourselves earnestly and ardently to acquitting ourselves of the responsibilities which our opportunities involve.

But, while we owe the public a debt of obligation which we do not seem to altogether appreciate and observe, and much as we are blameable in this regard, there are, I think, some reciprocal duties which the public are quite as slow to recognize concerning the press. The first of these duties is the immediate and radical reform of the law of libel. There has been a strange inconsistency in the conduct of the American people on this subject. While they have nobly contended for a free press—that is, free from government censorship—while they have even shed their blood in this behalf, they have suffered the libel laws to stand practically as they were framed in the reign of George III. There has been no effort to modify them, to bring them in accord with either the spirit or the requirements of the age. Even England has done more for the press in this regard than we Americans have. There, the lord chancellor, John Campbell happened to be an old attache of the London Morning Chronicle, and he drew the act of 1843, which gave some substantial relief. Let me suggest

some of the changes which, I think, will commend themselves to every fair man as just. I have told you that I did not believe in careless, reckless, impertinent, or obscene journalism. The punishment of any man engaging in that sort of journalism cannot be too severe. Make carelessness in editorial work a crime, and enforce the law as rigorously as you choose. But protect the man who is conscientiously striving to do his duty. At least, give him the chance for his life which you give to the burglar or the murderer. Your law says of every other class of offender he must be regarded as innocent until he is adjudged guilty. Here is what you say of the editor:

"Generally speaking, every libel is presumed by the law to be malicious, and we may also state that every person arraigned or brought into a court of justice for libel or slander is regarded *prima facie* as a wrongdoer." Flood on Libel and Slander, p. 87.

Your law says the murderer that he may have three defenses: First, that he did not commit the act; Second, that the commission of the act was justifiable; and, Third, that, although the act was committed, and although it was not justifiable, it was excusable because of the absence of criminal intent.

Your law admits the editor to but two of these defenses: First, that he did not print the article; and, Second, that the act was justifiable on the ground of truth or other legal privilege.

Your law says of the murderer that he shall not be punished twice for the same offense. He may be brought to bar for the crime there was in the business, and the heirs of his victim may maintain a civil action for the actual damages they have suffered; but in this transaction there is but one punishment, and one remedy.

Your law says of the editor that he may first be tried and punished for libel as a crime by fine and imprisonment. Then the victim may sustain a civil action for actual damages, and, finally, as a second punishment for the crime for which you have already fined or imprisoned him, he may be made to suffer in smart money or consequential damages.

This whole doctrine of exemplary damages is an atrocity which should be wiped off the statute books. It has no foundation whatever in equity. It springs from the infamous informer theory, under which governments give a man a share of the fine for having detected the criminal. It is a surrender of the rightful function of the court to the citizen. It is a farming-out of the business of collecting fines and administering punishments. The true theory is unquestionably this: that a libel is wrong precisely like any other wrong. It is an injury to the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth, and an injury to the individual libeled. Make the culprit pay his debt to the state by fine and imprisonment, and make the fine and imprisonment as onerous as you please. Measure his guilt and take whatever the bond gives you, though it be a pound of flesh. But when you have done that, when the state has recovered all it has a right to ask, and all that justice gives it, then let punishment end. Let him pay his debt to the individual, but let that be a commercial transaction. Let him pay for every farthing of injury he has done the individual on the ground that he owes it, and owes it not to the state, but to that individual—not as a punishment, but as a *quid pro quo*. If exemplary damages are to be paid at all they should go to the government. They certainly do not belong to the individual who has been libeled, and he has no right to them. He has a right to the fullest measure of his actual damages, and not a cent more.

I think it is out of this exemplary damage doctrine that most of the injustice done the press springs. Through it an incentive is offered to men to make money by bringing libel suits. This is contrary to the whole spirit of our government. I suggest this modification of the libel law. That there be but two forms of action—one wholly criminal and one wholly civil. That the criminal action have for its object the punishment of crime alone, and that the civil action have the single aim of satisfying the actual injury done the individual. Let intent be the standard of judgment in one case, and damage the standard in the other. Another duty which the public owes the newspaper is a change in the copyright laws, so as to enable the publisher of a newspaper to protect himself against piracy. I have not time to elaborate this idea. It is, perhaps, enough to say, that while book writers, magazine publishers, and painters may prevent other people from seizing and reproducing the fruit of their brains, there is practically no protection for the journalist.

I have talked long enough, but I ask your indulgence for a summary of these ideas: The journalist should know his business, the publication of his paper should be the end of his ambition and desire, and not the means to any end; he should be independent and honest; his standards for measuring the contents of his paper should be determined by answering these questions: Does this thing bear upon current history; will it excite attention; and will the reading of it benefit the people? He is bound to recognize his responsibilities as commensurate with the influence he exerts. The public, in turn, owe it to the press to abate the infamous doctrine of exemplary damages. I have done.

Upon motion the unanimous thanks of the Association was extended to Mr. Stone for his able and highly interesting address.

The meeting then adjourned to nine o'clock Friday morning.

REGULAR PROCEEDINGS.

FRIDAY MORNING, MAR. 30.

The Association convened at nine o'clock with President Scripps in the chair, and the following members present:

Aldrich, Fred., Globe, Flint.
Brearley, W. H., Evening News, Detroit.
Bailey, C. W., Monitor, Vicksburg.
Beal, J. E., Courier, Ann Arbor.
Bennett, E. T., Press, Bay City.
Bates, L. J., Post and Tribune, Detroit.
Boughton, F. W., Chronicle, Marshall.
Cannon, J. W., Globe, Oxford.
Duncan, L. A., Republican, Niles.
Fowler, S. W., Standard, Manistee.
Forsyth, Edward, Democrat, Cheboygan.
Fuller, C. L., Herald, Gaylord.
Fuller, Otis, Republican, St. Johns.
Grensel, Joseph, Free Press, Detroit.
Goodale, George, Free Press, Detroit.
Grabill, E. F., Independent, Greenville.
Henderson, Don, Journal & Tribune, Allegan.
Hamilton, M. D., Commercial, Monroe.

Harris, D. S., Record, Linden.
Ingersoll, Ward, Journal, Coruna.
McMillan, A., Tribune, Bay City.
Nellis, F. E., Monitor, Mt. Clemens.
Parker, Chas., Every Saturday, Detroit.
Scripps, Jas. E., Evening News, Detroit.
Strong, Orno, News, Nashville.
Shakespeare, A. J., Gazette, Kalamazoo.
Slocum, Fred, Advertiser, Holly.
Sutton, Del T., Review, Richmond.
Sherman, L. A., Times, Port Huron.
Stocking, Wm., Post and Tribune, Detroit.
Stone, J. H., honorary, Detroit.
Thompson, W. H., Post and Tribune, Detroit.
Trowbridge, L. H., Christian Herald, Detroit.
Teft, V. J., News, Mason.
Van Fossen, I. W., Herald, Paw Paw.

The Secretary being absent, upon motion W. H. Brearley, of the Detroit *Evening News*, was chosen Secretary *pro tem*.

JOURNALISM AS A FINE ART.

President Scripps spoke briefly as follows:

According to my manner of thinking journalism has become a fine art. I define art as an effort to please the higher and more refined tastes. The success of a newspaper depends in the main on its popularity with intelligent people. To secure this popularity it must at every point commend itself to their good taste. When the subscriber takes his paper from the post office, if it is neatly folded and wrapped, he is favorably prepossessed in regard to its contents, while if put up in a slovenly manner he cannot fail to hold it in some sort of contempt. Even, then, in the folding and wrapping up of a paper the art element stands out prominently. When the subscriber opens the paper, if it is nicely printed, with a clean, sharp, uniform impression, his prepossessions in its favor are still further strengthened. No one will dispute press work being strictly a fine art. Then the make-up of the paper has very much to do with the degree of respect that will be felt for its contents. The

ences in one or more of them, the amendment was considered inexpedient and withdrawn.

The resolution was then adopted.

Mr. Grabill called attention to the fact that the portion of Art. 8 of the Constitution, relating to the payment of a membership fee of Two Dollars, was a dead letter; that he had been treasurer of the association three years and during that time had not known of a person paying the prescribed membership fee of Two Dollars; therefore he would move that this section be changed so as to read as follows:

ART. 8. Every bona fide editor or publisher, or person connected with the editorial or business management of a newspaper in this state, who shall pay into the treasury of this association one dollar as a membership fee, shall be considered a member of the association during the year for which the membership fee has been paid. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer, soon after the close of each annual session, to send a postal card to every publisher in the state, who has not paid the annual fee, quoting the preceding part of this article and requesting him to pay into the association treasury the annual one dollar membership fee.

Which amendment prevailed, two-thirds of the members present voting therefor.

The President desired to impress upon every member of the association the importance of making this association a grand success; that he should use his best endeavors to make the next meeting of special value and interest to every true publisher, and hoped that he should see a large turn-out at Bay City.

On motion of Mr. Strong, a vote of thanks was extended to the Detroit press for courtesies shown the association during its session.

The association then adjourned, subject to the call of the executive committee.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE MICHIGAN

PRESS ASSOCIATION

—AT ITS—

FOURTEENTH AND FIFTEENTH

—ANNUAL MEETINGS—

—WITH—

History of Legislation had upon the subject of
Libel Laws, Complete List of Membership,
Biographical Sketches, Etc.

GREENVILLE, MICHIGAN
INDEPENDENT STEAM PRINTING HOUSE
1882

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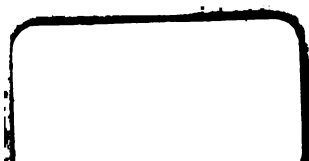
—ANNUAL MEETINGS—

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INDEPENDENT STEAM PRINTING HOUSE
1882





PROCEEDINGS

➤OF THE➤

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

➤AT THE➤

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING,

➤HELD AT➤

LANSING, JANUARY 11, 1881,

➤WITH➤

History of Legislation had upon the subject of
Libel Laws.

GREENVILLE, MICHIGAN:
INDEPENDENT STEAM PRINTING HOUSE.
1882.

OFFICERS FOR 1880.

PRESIDENT:

RICE A. BEAL, Ann Arbor.

VICE PRESIDENTS:

L. A. DUNCAN, Niles;
GEO. F. LEWIS, Saginaw;
M. D. HAMILTON, Monroe.

SECRETARY:

EDWIN S. HOSKINS, Bellevue.

TREASURER:

E. F. GRABILL, Greenville.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

RICE A. BEAL, EDWIN S. HOSKINS, E. F. GRABILL.

OFFICERS FOR 1881.

PRESIDENT:

C. V. DELAND, East Saginaw.

VICE PRESIDENTS:

GEO. P. SANFORD, Lansing;
JAS. M. SHEPARD, Cassopolis;
ORNO STRONG, Nashville.

SECRETARY:

EDWIN S. HOSKINS, Bellevue.

TREASURER:

E. F. GRABILL, Greenville.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

C. V. DELAND, EDWIN S. HOSKINS, E. F. GRABILL.

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING:

Time and place to be fixed by the Executive Committee.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Association shall be known as the MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

ART. 2. The object of this Association shall be the promotion of the general interests of the press of the State of Michigan.

ART. 3. Any bona fide editor or publisher of a newspaper in this State may become a member upon being elected by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting and the payment of a membership fee of Two Dollars. Every member shall pay annually thereafter the sum of One Dollar into the treasury of the Association. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer, at the close of each annual meeting, to notify by postal card members who are in arrears of dues. Any one who is in arrears for dues two full years has forfeited his right to membership in this Association. By a two-thirds vote, the Association may admit as honorary members any persons who have been editors and publishers.

ART. 4. The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, three Vice Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected at each annual meeting and shall hold their offices for one year, or until their successors shall be chosen. The president, secretary and treasurer shall serve as an Executive Committee.

ART. 5. The Annual Meeting shall be held upon call of the Executive Committee on such day in the month of January, February or March, in each year, as said Executive Committee may determine, they giving due notice of the same. Special meetings may be called by the President, at the request of any ten members of the Association, or by the Executive Committee.

ART. 6. By-Laws regulating its proceeding may be adopted by a majority of the Association.

ART. 7. This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting.

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The fourteenth annual meeting of the Michigan Press Association met at the senate chamber, in the city of Lansing, on Tuesday, Jan. 11, 1881, in accordance with a call of the executive committee, and was called to order at 2:20 o'clock p. m., by President Rice A. Beal of the Ann Arbor Courier.

On motion of Orno Strong of the Nashville News, the constitution of the association was amended by striking out of Article 3, line 4, the words "32 and," two-thirds of the members present voting therefor.

The treasurer not being present, J. H. Dennis of the Hastings Home Journal was made treasurer pro tem.

The annual dues of \$1 each was then paid by the following members:

Geo. P. Sanford, Journal, Lansing.	J. E. Scripps, Evening News, Detroit.
Nathan Church, Times, Grand Rapids.	Don C. Henderson, Allegan.
C. W. Bailey, Monitor, Vicksburg.	Rudolph Worch, Volksfreund, Jackson.
J. N. Fitzgerald, Union, Ovid.	J. A. J. Creswell, Post, Grand Rapids.
L. C. Miller, Republican, Howell.	Robert Smith, Journal, Ithaca.
Geo. E. Esterling, Sentinel, Ionia.	H. S. Hillbourne, Democrat, Ithaca.
Irving Carrier, Register, Ovid.	F. B. Ainger, Republican, Charlotte.
Orno Strong, News, Nashville.	J. C. Stone, News, Laingsburg.
Otis Fuller, late of News, Mason.	E. O. Shaw, Republican, Newaygo.
J. H. Steers, Review, Wyandotte.	John Robertson, Dispatch, Schoolcraft.
W. Chandler, Tribune, Cheboygan.	Jas. M. Shepard, Vigilant, Cassopolis.
J. H. Kellogg, Health Review, Battle Creek.	Geo. Bowers, Banner, Hastings.
E. S. Andrews, Enterprise, Williamston.	E. R. Powell, Herald, Stanton.
J. W. Bailey, Observer, Portland.	James H. Shultz, Herald, St. Louis.
W. W. Van Antwerp, Patriot, Jackson.	K. Kittredge, Journal, Eaton Rapids.
C. V. Nearpass, Forum, Whitehall.	Geo. L. Woodard, Gazette, Litchfield.
Wm. Ricaby, Republican, St. Joseph.	J. T. Cobb, Grange Visitor, Schoolcraft.
Marshall L. Cook, Banner, Hastings.	S. S. Hopkins, Observer, Romeo.
Wm. L. Eaton, Telegraph, Kalamazoo.	S. C. Stacey, Herald, Tecumseh.
Joseph Warren, Tribune, Bay City.	Fred. S. Slocum, Standard, Holly.
P. S. Dodge, Clipper, Stanton.	F. E. Nellis, Monitor, Mt. Clemens.
C. V. Smith, Republican, Centerville.	L. A. Duncan, Republican, Niles.
J. V. Johnson, Leader, Charlotte.	C. C. Allison, Democrat, Cassopolis.
W. C. Westland, Independent, Grand Ledge.	E. F. Grabill, Independent, Greenville.
W. S. George, Republican, Lansing.	Rice A. Beal, Courier, Ann Arbor.
J. W. King, Republican, Lansing.	John M. Potter, Sentinel, Lansing.
Edwin S. Hoskins, Gazette, Bellevue.	Chas. S. Nims, Jeffersonian, Lexington.
C. V. DeLand, Herald, East Saginaw.	Joseph Grousel, Free Press, Detroit.
James H. Stone, Post and Tribune, Detroit.	J. H. Fee, Times, Adrian.
Gil R. Osmun, Evening News, Detroit.	John G. Holmes, Record, Buchanan.
W. H. Brearley, Evening News, Detroit.	Del. T. Sutton, Review, Richmond.
W. C. Nelson, Enterprise, Northport.	E. J. Kelly, Bill Poster, Pontiac.
H. G. Chavin, Advertiser, Caro.	Albert H. Finn, Argus, Capac.
Alonzo Biltz, Republican, Spring Lake.	J. K. Fairchild, Review, Harrisville.
L. P. Brock, National, Ionia.	A. V. Phoster, Advertiser, Hubbardston.

bels, the plaintiff shall be required to file security satisfactory to the court for the payment of the costs that may be incurred by the defendant in such action.

SEC. 2. It shall be unlawful for the attorney or counsel for the plaintiff, in any such action, to possess any contingent pecuniary interest in the result thereof; and, if any such interest be shown, it shall bar the plaintiff's right of action.

SEC. 3. In all prosecutions for libel brought against the editor or publisher of any newspaper, malice shall not be presumed.

SEC. 4. Where no malice is shown in the publication of a libel, only actual damages shall be recovered.

SEC. 5. All charges of maladministration, made in good faith by any editor or publisher of a newspaper against a public officer, in the belief that they were true, and with good motives, and for justifiable ends, shall be deemed privileged, and no action shall be maintained thereon.

SEC. 6. Publishers of newspapers shall be liable only for the actual damages proved to have been sustained in consequence of any publication, when it is shown that such publication was believed by them to be true, and was published by them in good faith, and when a retraction has not been refused.

SEC. 7. In criminal prosecutions for libels, it shall be deemed a full and sufficient defense if the defendant shall prove that the publication was made by the act of another person without the defendant's express authority or consent, and without his knowledge, and that there was no want of care on his part.

SEC. 8. All acts and parts of acts, contravening the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed.

On motion of Mr. Dennis, the report of the committee was accepted and the bill adopted.

Mr. Scripps moved that Messrs. George, Sanford, Stocking, Greusel and Osmun be a committee of five to take charge of the bill and push its passage;

Which motion prevailed.

Mr. DeLand moved that the executive committee be instructed to furnish the committee all the money needed by them for necessary expenses in looking after the interests of the bill;

Which motion prevailed.

Mr. Shepard moved that each member of the association be constituted a committee of one to talk with the senator and representative from his home district and urge upon them the importance of the passage of the bill; and that the association resolve itself into a committee of the whole to push on the passage of the bill to the best of its ability;

Which motion prevailed.

Mr. George moved that the association respectfully ask the legislature to repeal Act No. 192, public acts of 1879, entitled "An Act to provide a punishment for libel and slander;" and also that members of the association be requested to circulate petitions to the legislature, asking for the repeal of said act;

Which motion prevailed.

Mr. Osmun offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That it is the sense of this association that the practice of cutting rates on legal advertising is poor policy, and that members who are engaged in that reprehensible custom be requested to halt in their mad careers and see if they cannot reform;

Which was adopted.

Mr. Strong offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That any member of this association who offers foreign advertisers better advertising rates than he does his regular home advertisers is unworthy to be a member of this association;

Pending the adoption of the resolution,

Mr. Brearley moved that the subject be referred to a committee of three, with instructions that they should report thereon at the next regular meeting;

Which motion prevailed.

The president named as such committee Messrs. Strong, Brearley and Kittredge. On motion of Mr. DeLand, the association adjourned.

APPENDIX.

A brief history of the bill prepared by the committee appointed by the association, as well as of other bills upon the subject of libels, will be of interest to those entitled to receive this pamphlet, and it is herewith given:

The committee's bill was introduced by Senator Dickerman of Hillsdale Jan. 21, 1881, as Senate Bill No. 26, and referred to the committee on the judiciary; reported adversely and tabled Jan. 26; taken from the table and re-referred to the committee on judiciary March 30; March 31st a substitute for the bill was reported and, without being adopted, was ordered printed with the original, and both were re-referred to the committee; May 10 the original bill and the substitute were reported adversely and again both were tabled. The following is the substitute:

A Bill relative to Prosecutions for Libels.

SEC. 1. The People of the State of Michigan enact: That in prosecutions for libels brought against the editor or publisher of any newspaper, where no malice is shown, only actual damages shall be recovered.

SEC. 2. Publishers of newspapers shall be liable only for the actual damages proved to have been sustained in consequence of any publication, where it is shown that such publication was believed by them to be true, and was published by them in good faith, and where a retraction has not been refused.

SEC. 3. In criminal prosecutions for libel, it shall be deemed a full and sufficient defense if the defendant shall prove that the publication was made by the act of another person without the defendant's express authority or consent, and without his knowledge, and that there was no want of care on his part.

SEC. 4. All acts or parts of acts, contravening any provisions of this act, are hereby repealed.

The bill to repeal Act. No. 192, asked for by the association, was introduced by Senator Brown of Gratiot January 31, 1881, as Senate Bill No. 51, and referred to the committee on the judiciary; was reported favorably, ordered printed and referred to committee of the whole March 5; was placed on the order of third reading without amendment March 22; tabled pending vote on final passage March 23; taken from table, lost on final passage, reconsidered and tabled March 24; taken from table and again defeated May 31. The following is the bill:

A Bill to repeal an act entitled "An Act to provide a punishment for libel and slander," approved May 3, 1879."

SECTION 1. The People of the State of Michigan enact: That Act No. 192, of the session laws of 1879, entitled "An Act to provide a punishment for libel and slander," approved May 3, 1879," be and the same is hereby repealed, Provided, That any suit or proceeding heretofore commenced, under the provisions of said Act No. 192, shall not be affected hereby.

Another bill in relation to libels was introduced by Senator Caplis of Wayne, as Senate Bill No. 241, and referred to the committee on the judiciary February 22, 1881; was ordered printed and re-referred to the committee March 31; was reported adversely and tabled May 10. The following is the bill:

A Bill in relation to Actions for Libel.

SECTION 1. The People of the State of Michigan enact, That in all civil actions for libel against the publisher or editor of any newspaper only actual damages shall be recovered.

SEC. 2. No civil action for libel shall be brought, nor any criminal action for libel instituted, against the publisher or editor of any newspaper after the expiration of one year from the time the cause of action shall accrue.

SEC. 3. All acts or parts of acts, in contravention hereof or inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed.

PROCEEDINGS

➤OF THE➤

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

➤AT THE➤

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING,

➤HELD AT➤

LANSING, MARCH 15, 1882,

➤WITH➤

Biographical Sketches, A Digest of all Transactions
of the Association from its First Meeting, and
a Complete List of the Membership
of the Association.

OFFICERS FOR 1881.

PRESIDENT:

C. V. DELAND, East Saginaw.

VICE PRESIDENTS:

GEO. P. SANFORD, Lansing;
JAS. M. SHEPARD, Cassopolis;
ORNO STRONG, Nashville.

SECRETARY:

EDWIN S. HOSKINS, Bellevue.

TREASURER:

E. F. GRABILL, Greenville.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

C. V. DELAND, EDWIN S. HOSKINS, E. F. GRABILL.

OFFICERS FOR 1882.

PRESIDENT:

JAMES E. SCRIPPS, Detroit.

VICE PRESIDENTS:

J. W. HINE, Lowell;
D. C. HENDERSON, Allegan;
H. B. ROWLSON, Hillsdale.

SECRETARY:

EDWIN S. HOSKINS, St. Louis.

TREASURER:

E. F. GRABILL, Greenville.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

JAMES E. SCRIPPS, EDWIN S. HOSKINS, E. F. GRABILL

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING:

Time and place to be fixed by the Executive Committee.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL.

<p> G. L. Adams, Fowlerville Review. F. B. Ainger, Charlotte Republican. C. C. Allison, Cassopolis Democrat. E. S. Andrews, Williamston Enterprise. C. W. Bailey, Vicksburg Monitor. J. W. Bailey, Portland Observer. Rice A. Beal, Ann Arbor Courier. B. B. Bissell, Albion Republican. Alonzo Biltz, Spring Lake Republican. Geo. E. Bowers, Hastings Banner. W. H. Brearley, Detroit Evening News. L. P. Brock, Ionia National. Irving Carrier, Ovid Register. Wm. Chandler, Cheboygan Tribune. H. G. Chapin, Caro Advertiser. Nathan Church, Grand Rapids Times. J. T. Cobb, Schoolcraft Grange Visitor. Marshall L. Cook, Hastings Banner. J. A. Creswell, Grand Rapids Post. C. V. DeLand, Saginaw Herald. P. S. Dodge, Stanton Clipper. L. A. Duncan, Niles Republican. Wm. L. Eaton, Kalamazoo Telegraph. Geo. E. Esterling, Ionia Standard. J. K. Fairchild, Harrisville Review. J. H. Fee, Adrian Times. Albert H. Finn, Capac Argus. J. N. Fitzgerald, Ovid Union. Eugene Foster, Cedar City Record. Otis Fuller, St. Johns Republican. W. S. George*, Lansing Republican. E. F. Grabill, Greenville Independent. Joseph Greusel, Detroit Free Press. Don C. Henderson, Allegan Journal. H. S. Hilbourne, Ithaca Democrat. Jas. W. Hine, Lowell Journal. John G. Holmes, Buchanan Record. S. S. Hopkins, Romeo Observer. Edwin S. Hoskins, St. Louis Leader. J. V. Johnson, Charlotte Leader. J. H. Kellogg, Battle Creek Health Review. </p>	<p> D. H. Kedzie, Grand Haven Herald. E. J. Kelly, Pontiac Bill Poster. J. W. King, Lansing Republican. K. Kittredge, Eaton Rapids Journal. L. C. Miller, Howell Republican. C. V. Nearpass, Whitehall Forum. F. E. Nellis, Mt. Clemens Monitor. W. C. Nelson, Northport Enterprise. Chas. S. Nims, Lexington Jeffersonian. Gil. R. Osmun, Detroit Evening News. A. V. Phister, Hubbardston Advertiser. John M. Potter, Lansing Sentinel. E. R. Powell, Stanton Herald. Wm. Ricaby, St. Joseph Republican. John Robertson, Schoolcraft Dispatch. H. B. Rowison, Hillsdale Standard. J. M. Russell, Clare County Cleaver. Geo. P. Sanford, Lansing Journal. Joseph Saunders, Charlotte Republican. J. E. Scripps, Detroit Evening News. E. O. Shaw, Newaygo Republican. Jas. M. Shepard, Cassopolis Vigilant. James H. Shults, St. Louis Herald. Fred. S. Slocum, Holly Advertiser. C. V. Smith, Centerville Republican. Robert Smith, Ithaca Journal. S. C. Stacy, Tecumseh Herald. J. H. Steirs, Wyandotte Review. W. E. Stewart, South Haven Sentinel. J. C. Stone, Laingsburg News. Jas. H. Stone, Detroit Post and Tribune. Orno Strong, Nashville News. Del T. Sutton, Richmond Review. V. J. Tefft, Mason News. W. W. Van Antwerp, Jackson Patriot. Wm. Van Buren, Lansing Republican. F. M. Vandercook, St. Louis Leader. Joseph Warren, Bay City Tribune. W. C. Westland, Grand Ledge Independent. Geo. L. Woodard, Litchfield Gazette. Rudolph Worch, Jackson Volksfreund. </p>
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*Died December 27, 1881.

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

Pursuant to a call of the president, the Michigan Press Association met in the senate chamber at Lansing on Wednesday, March 15, 1882, and was called to order by President DeLand at 10 o'clock a. m.

The president stated that it had been his original intention to put off calling the meeting until the pleasant weather of May or June, and then call it at East Saginaw or some point where it would have been possible for him to treat the association to a steamboat excursion with its attendant pleasures; but that his attention had been recently called to the provision of the constitution that requires that the annual meetings shall be held at some time during the months of January, February and March, thus making it necessary that he should call it at once, which he had done.

President DeLand also alluded briefly but feelingly to the fact that since our last annual meeting death had claimed for his own such illustrious, useful and honored members of the association as G. W. Fitch, John N. Ingersoll, W. S. George and R. F. Johnstone, and stated that at his request certain members had prepared obituary notices of the members named, which would be read at this meeting.

The secretary made an explanation regarding the failure to print in the usual pamphlet form the minutes of the last meeting, which was received by the association as satisfactory.

Mr. Henderson moved that the obituaries, as prepared, be read in detail; which motion prevailed.

Don C. Henderson then read a paper upon the life and death of W. S. George, which was accepted and placed on file.

The president then read a paper upon the Hon. John N. Ingersoll, as prepared by a son of Mr. Ingersoll for publication in his own paper, the Shiawassee American, which was also received and placed on file.

James W. King, for a long time connected with the late W. S. George, in the editorship of the Lansing Republican, next read a feeling tribute to the memory of Mr. George, which was also accepted and placed on file.

The following new names were next proposed for membership and, on motion, were voted members upon payment of the admission fee required by the constitution:

V. J. Tafft, Mason News.	D. H. Kedzie, Grand Haven Herald.
Wm. M. Clark, Lansing Republican.	Geo. L. Adams, Fowlerville Review.
John M. Russell, Clare County Cleaver.	F. M. Vandercook, St. Louis Leader.
The following members then paid their annual dues, \$1 for each year:	
Don C. Henderson, Journal, Allegan.	Orno Strong, News, Nashville.
James E. Scripps, Evening News, Detroit.	D. H. Kedzie, Herald, Grand Haven.
H. B. Rowison, Standard, Hillsdale.	G. L. Adams, Review, Fowlerville.
W. H. Brearley, Evening News, Detroit.	Edwin S. Hoskins, Leader, St. Louis.
W. M. Clark, Republican, Lansing.	F. M. Vandercook, Leader, St. Louis.
J. W. King, Republican, Lansing.	E. F. Grabill, Independent, Greenville.
Eugene Foster, Record, Cedar Creek.	Wm. Van Buren, Republican, Lansing.
Joseph Saunders, Detroit.	W. L. Eaton, Telegraph, Kalamazoo.
V. J. Tafft, News, Mason.	Geo. P. Sanford, Journal, Lansing.
C. V. DeLand, Herald, East Saginaw.	Robert Smith, Journal, Ithaca.
J. M. Russell, Cleaver, Clare County.	James W. Hine, Journal, Lowell.
C. W. Bailey, Monitor, Vicksburg.	K. Kittredge, Journal, Eaton Rapids.
J. H. Stone, Post and Tribune, Detroit.	Geo. E. Bower, Banner, Hastings.
E. R. Powell, Herald, Stanton.	B. B. Bissell, Republican, Albion.

W. L. Eaton, of the Kalamazoo Telegraph, who had just entered the chamber, was next called on and presented an obituary notice upon the late George A. Fitch, which was accepted and placed on file.

The chair stated in regard to the paper just read, (which appears in its proper place among the obituary notices,) that there seemed to be a difference of opinion regarding the early history of the Republican party; and that to Hon. Jacob M. Howard, more than to any other one man, belonged the honor of selecting or suggesting the name "Republican;" through correspondence of Mr. Howard, Z. B. Knight of Pontiac, Henry K. Clark of Detroit, and others, with Horace Greeley, the name was decided upon; and that the article that first appeared in the Kalamazoo Telegraph, urging the formation of such a party, while generally credited to Mr. Fitch, was prepared by five editors of the state, H. B. Rowleson being one, and the chair another, and was published by Mr. Fitch at his own request.

Mr. James E. Scripps next read the following paper on "HOW TO MAKE OUR ASSOCIATION PERMANENT AND HOW TO DEVELOP ITS USEFULNESS."

GENTLEMEN OF THE MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION: Your executive committee has requested me to read a brief paper on how to make our association permanent and how to develop its usefulness. This I will try to do without occupying more than five minutes of your time.

You have often noticed, no doubt, that money is the chief element of permanence in all such societies. Where there is money or property, there will the social vultures be gathered together. If the Michigan Press Association but owned a few thousand dollars worth of property, we should never find difficulty in getting the members together to participate in the management of it. If we only had a club house in Detroit, for instance, which our members could make use of as a headquarters when at our state metropolis, and at which our periodical meetings could be held, and from which the rents of a portion of which a revenue should be derived, the problem of permanence would be solved. So it would if the press of the state owned a telegraph line connecting the several offices of its members by which means the readiest interchange of news could be effected. Another scheme involving an accumulation of means would be some sort of a mutual insurance system. But all these are as yet probably Utopian; and the money element therefore being wanting, something else must be found to take its place.

It is a question whether that something lies in an annual reunion for recreation and pleasure such as an excursion would afford; or simply in such meetings, work and discussion as shall tend to put money in the pockets of the members, and shall otherwise lie in the direction of the improvement and development of the art of journalism.

An excursion, participated in by intelligent and information-seeking men and directed to new and interesting fields, is both enjoyable and useful. It freshens up the jaded mind of the participant and broadens his knowledge of men and places, both of which ends are of incalculable benefit to the active journalist. There are many things in our own state with which our editors should be thoroughly familiar; as, for instance, the mines of the upper peninsula, the beautiful bays and trout streams of the north woods, the immense lumbering interests of the Saginaws, our principal state institutions, and the lions of our larger cities, Detroit and Grand Rapids. When our own state is exhausted, a trip may be made to our national capital, to Florida, to New Orleans, to Texas, to Colorado or California, or some day perhaps even to Alaska. The advantages usually accorded to the press render such trips possible to us as editors where they may not be as private individuals. Such trips should not be made mere occasions for junketing and frolic. They should be thoroughly improved for the acquiring of information, which in turn should be communicated to the reading public through our several newspapers. The rivalry and excitement of a lot of expert newspaper men scrambling for information in a novel field, and afterwards emulating each other in the degree of literary skill with which the result of their gleanings should be presented to the intelligent readers of Michigan would in itself be a rare experience for us all. The annual excursions should be systematically planned and carefully and thoroughly arranged for by competent committees. These excursions could not, as it stands to reason, be held at any uniform season of the year.

Entirely distinct from them should be the business meetings of the association. The latter should be held with some degree of system and regularity, either in Detroit or Lansing as the most accessible points. They should consume at least a full day or three sessions of three or four hours each. Six or more brief essays on previously assigned topics should be read; and each should be followed by an hour's free discussion of the subject treated. Each speaker should be limited to five minutes,

unless by general consent. The essays should be of the most practical character, to the end that the members listening to them and to the ensuing discussions may return to their duties filled with new ideas, fresh zeal and higher aspirations. A limited number of the best of these essays, to be determined by vote of the association, should be printed in full in the minutes of the meeting; and there should be cultivated a wholesome rivalry for this honor.

In electing officers, greater care should be exercised to select men who have the interests of the association deeply at heart and who will spare neither time nor labor in the thorough performance of their duties.

There is one other point in which a reform is very much needed. We are too free and hospitable in voting in new members and too lax in keeping track of those already in. Heretofore any one who paid the membership fee could be sure of enrollment as a member. I have even known men to become members who made no pretense whatever of being journalists. This is wrong. The membership list should be carefully guarded and only reputable professional journalists, and men permanently connected with the press of the state, should be admitted to it. We have harbored in the past too many editorial tramps, who have figured in a single meeting and then been lost to us forever. They have contributed nothing either to our strength or permanence, but rather the reverse. I would advise that our constitution be so amended as to require all persons applying for membership to first have their cases considered and applications endorsed by the executive committee. The secretary should use greater diligence than has been customary to procure a full attendance of the membership at the annual meetings; and the treasurer should make a like diligent effort to collect dues from all members whether in attendance or not. Formal action should be taken from time to time to drop from the rolls all delinquent members.

The proceedings of each meeting should be carefully edited and printed in pamphlet form of uniform size and style from year to year. A copy should be supplied to each member; and complete files, bound from time to time, should be placed in the hands of each of the officers to be transmitted by them to their successors. Other such complete files should be deposited in the State library, the Detroit public library and perhaps in some others. Any copies remaining over should be sold as they may be called for by new members who may wish to complete sets of the printed proceedings.

The paper of Mr. Scripps was accepted and placed on file. It called out remarks from Messrs. Henderson, Strong, Tefft, Sanford, Grabill, Brearley, Russell and the president.

On motion of Mr. Henderson, the association took a recess until 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The association met and was called to order by the president.

The following additional names were proposed and were, on motion, voted as members on the payment of the membership fee prescribed by the constitution:

J. M. Potter, Lansing Sentinel; Wm. E. Stewart, South Haven Sentinel; B. B. Bissell, Albion Republican.

Mr. Scripps moved that the association proceed to an informal ballot for president for the ensuing year, only the candidates having more than one vote to be voted for in subsequent ballots;

Which motion prevailed.

J. W. Hine and Robert Smith were appointed tellers.

Twenty-one votes were cast, resulting as follows: James E. Scripps 5, Wm. Van Buren 2, E. R. Powell 1, J. W. Hine 3, H. B. Rowison 2, D. C. Henderson 3, C. V. De Land 1, Geo. P. Sanford 1, W. H. Brearley 2.

On motion, the association proceeded to a formal ballot, 23 votes being cast, of which Scripps had 15, Brearley 4, Hine 3 and DeLand 1.

On motion, Mr. Scripps was declared duly elected, and in a word thanked the association for the honor conferred.

On motion of Mr. Scripps, the association proceeded to an informal ballot for secretary, upon the plan adopted in the case of the president. Twenty-two votes were cast, of which Edwin S. Hoskins had 8, James W. Hine 6, Robert Smith 3, W. H. Brearley 2, E. F. Grabill 2, Orno Strong 1.

A formal ballot was ordered and Mr. Hoskins declared elected.

On motion of Mr. Henderson, E. F. Grabill was declared re-elected treasurer by acclamation.

On motion of James H. Stone, Messrs. James W. Hine, Don C. Henderson and H. B. Rowison were declared elected vice presidents by acclamation.

The treasurer then submitted his annual report, as follows:

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION,		In account with E. F. GRABILL, Treasurer.	
		Cr.	
1881.	Jan. 11,	By balance on hand last report.....	\$15 85
	"	By yearly dues and membership fees at Lansing meeting....	70 00
		By dues subsequently received.....	3 00
			\$88 85
Dr.			
1881.	Feb. 25,	To draft to J. E. Scripps, printing for libel legislation, \$30 98	
	Sept. 6,	To dft. to W. S. George & Co., printing White Mt. ex., 12 50	
		To new treasurer's book.....	50
		To exchange and postage.....	35
			\$44 33
Balance in treasury.....			\$44 52

Report accepted. On motion, the report was adopted.

The President presented the following letter of regrets from Governor Jerome, which was received and placed on file:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, Michigan.

COL. DELAND: Please express to the Association the wish of the Governor that he might have met them; but that he has been called away and will be unable to do so.

Yours, Truly,

E. G. DONALDSON, Secretary.

The President next presented the following communication from Mr. Eaton, who could not remain longer during the session:

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION: On behalf of the local publishers and the citizens, the Michigan Press Association is invited to hold its next annual meeting in Kalamazoo.

W. L. EATON, Kalamazoo Telegraph.

On motion of Mr. Hine, the communication was accepted and referred to the executive committee.

Mr. Brearley offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That when we adjourn, it be to meet next in January, 1883, in Detroit, the day to be fixed by the executive committee.

On motion of Mr. Sanford, the resolution was referred to the executive committee.

Mr. Brearley offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the secretary be requested to secure an address, for our next session, from Murat Halstead (of the Cincinnati Commercial) upon Mistakes in Journalism; or, in the event of failure to secure Mr. Halstead, the secretary to secure the services of some other well known and successful journalist.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

On motion of Mr. Sanford, the same was referred to the executive committee.

Mr. Brearley offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the next annual meeting consist of four sessions as follows: The first on the evening of Thursday of some week in January, 1883; the second in the forenoon of Friday; the third in the afternoon of Friday; the fourth to be a press banquet and occupy the evening of Friday.

The question being on the adoption of the resolution,

On motion of Mr. Scripps, the same was referred to the executive committee.

Mr. Scripps offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the secretary be authorized to publish, with the proceedings of the current year, a digest of all the transactions of the association from its first organization, also a complete list of the membership of the association;

Which was adopted.

Mr. Scripps moved that the retiring president, Col. DeLand, be invited to furnish, for publication with the minutes of this meeting, a brief synopsis of the old press association from 1855 to 1860;

Which motion prevailed.

Mr. Scripps offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the resolution adopted at our last meeting, instructing the secretary to forward a copy of our minutes to each newspaper in the state, regardless of membership, is hereby rescinded; and that the printed proceedings be supplied only to members of the association and the ten leading libraries of the state; provided, that two copies shall be sent to each officer, one for his own use and one to be transmitted to his successor;

Which was not adopted.

Mr. Scripps offered the following preambles and resolution:

WHEREAS, For three years past this association has labored for the passage of a just and reasonable statute governing suits brought against newspapers for libel; and

WHEREAS, Up to this time no such legislation has been secured; therefore

RESOLVED, That the executive committee elected at this meeting be instructed to properly bring the matter before the legislature at its next session, and do all in their power to procure the passage of an enlightened act on the subject;

Which was adopted.

The committee, appointed at the last meeting to consider the matter of advertising rates, reported as follows:

A majority of your committee, to whom was referred, at the last annual meeting, the following resolution:

"RESOLVED, That any member of this association who takes foreign advertising at a less rate than he does regular home advertising, is unworthy to be a member of this association."

Bez leave to report that they deem the adoption of the resolution inadvisable, and recommend that it be laid on the table. W. H. BAZANLEY, Chairman.

Report accepted and committee discharged.

Mr. STONE, of the committee, asked the privilege of presenting a minority report in favor of the adoption of the resolution.

Report accepted.

The president called Mr. Sanford to the chair.

After spirited remarks for and against the adoption of the majority report, by Messrs. DeLand, Kittredge, Saunders, Brazier, Scripps, Irving, Sanford, Kinnel, Gracie, Russell and Packer the report was adopted, and two reports and the resolutions were laid on the table, it being conceded that the adoption of the resolutions would work in favor of the weaker papers of the smaller towns.

Mr. Kittredge offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the secretary of this association be instructed to correspond with each publisher in the state of Michigan, urging them to join the association, and ascertain to what period as well as to the pecuniary advantages it may be to them in such persuasive terms as he may deem fit.

Which was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Gracie, the association then adjourned.

NOTE BY SECRETARY.—Col. DeLand writes that he cannot possibly furnish the history of the association from 1885 to 1901, as suggested, in time for publication in this pamphlet, hence its omission.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

WILLIAM S. GEORGE.

The following is the biographical sketch of the late W. S. GEORGE read by Don C. Henderson of the Allegan Journal:

MR. PRESIDENT AND BRETHREN OF THE PRESS: Since the last assemblage of this body, William S. George has been called to his long home. In his death the press fraternity of our state lost one of its most accomplished members. He early developed a love of journalism and at fifteen years of age he wrote articles in favor of Harrison's election to the presidency in the memorable campaign of 1840. He was early apprenticed to the printing business and spent four years of his boyhood in learning the "art preservative of all arts," following in the footsteps of Benjamin Franklin and Horace Greeley, and with very much the same social advantages so far as the circumstances of his parents were concerned. His father could not give him a collegiate education. But young George had a thirst for knowledge and so became a printer; and being of a studious turn of mind, he was soon placed in a position where he could gratify his literary tastes and perfect himself in his study of his mother tongue, a knowledge of which was eventually to become the source of his livelihood. He soon became thoroughly versed in the English classics and in English composition.

In 1844 he conducted the political columns of the Vermont Phoenix, a Whig paper of good standing in the state of his nativity, and was, briefly, a journeyman printer, foreman and proof-reader of that paper.

In 1857 in Boston he obtained his first employment as an editorial writer, having for six years previously been an amateur newspaper contributor, receiving little or no compensation therefor.

Through an advertisement in a newspaper, he became the assistant editor of a paper at New Bedford. He soon thereafter earned enough to purchase the North Adams Transcript which, under his charge, rendered effective service, in the county of its publication, for the election of Lincoln to the presidency.

In 1860 he disposed of his paper at North Adams, and became an assistant editor of the Springfield Republican.

In 1862 he came to Michigan and was an assistant editor of the Detroit Advertiser. In 1863 he obtained complete business control of the Detroit Tribune, and his management of that paper added to its prosperity. In 1867 he disposed of this interest and was for a brief time superintendent of an oil company in West Virginia. But he soon returned to Michigan and, with Hon. George Jerome, took control of the state printing at Lansing. He assumed editorial control of the Lansing Republican in 1873, and occupied that position to the day of his death. It was as editor in chief of the Republican that he established for himself his well-earned literary reputation; he achieved for himself not only a state-wide but a national fame. The Republican was quoted far and wide in Michigan and was also largely circulated in other states. Eminently fair in his editorial conduct, the Republican became standard authority in all political matters. As a partisan, Mr. George had earned for himself a record for impartiality seldom achieved by political writers. He was a just and candid man, affable, gentlemanly and agreeable in his social intercourse, a true friend, a champion of the right and truth early identifying himself with the anti-slavery cause. Liberal in his theological views, he thought for himself on all subjects involving intellectual research. Benevolent and humane in all his instincts, he was a friend of the poor and oppressed from his youth up.

It was my pleasure to have been somewhat intimately acquainted with the deceased, and to have enjoyed his confidence and esteem. His death is a great loss to Michigan journalism, to whose development he had contributed so largely in the model newspaper of the state, in whose editing he had taken so much pride and pleasure. We all regret his death and sympathize with his wife and family in the great loss they have sustained. We have had few such men connected with the Michigan press. His death has been an irreparable loss to the press of our state. Peace to his ashes!

The following feeling tribute to Wm. S. George was read by James W. King of the Lansing Republican:

WM. S. GEORGE, for many years chief editor and senior proprietor of the Republican, died at his home in Lansing on the morning of Dec. 27, 1891, aged 56 years. He was born at Derby, Vt., and came from that Puritan stock which has stamped its impress so indelibly on the national character.

At the age of three years five swept from his parents all their worldly possessions; and lying on a bed on the ground near the scene of destruction he saw the lurid flames do a work of havoc and ruin which caused both parents and children to struggle for years to obtain for themselves the necessities of life. Wm. S. was the eldest son, and before he had reached the age of twelve years was fighting manfully the battle of life. He has often said to the writer of this: "I never knew anything about the sports and pleasures of childhood." While his companions were engaged in outdoor sports, he was engaged in study and composition, which were the stepping stones to that prominent position which he afterwards held in the ranks of journalism. He had thorough elementary drill in the common schools and at thirteen years of age became an apprentice in the White Mountain Press, published at Lancaster, N. H. His wages were \$1.25 a week for eleven hours of labor, commencing at 6 a. m., engaging an hour's "feeding" and closing at 6 p. m. the year around. He was required in the winter time to go to the office before breakfast, get fires started, and then be ready for his regular day's work at 6 o'clock.

At the close of his regular apprenticeship, he worked for a few months in the office of the Democratic Republican at Haverhill, and then removed to Brattleboro, Vt., where he worked for several years in the office of the Vermont Phoenix.

These were hard-working, slow-going old times, and part of his wages were paid in "renters." The lesson, however, was thoroughly inculcated upon him that all future success must depend on industry, fidelity and accuracy, the improving of one's opportunities and the saving of one's earnings.

As an apprentice he soon became an expert compositor and could set more type per day at the close of the first year than the average of journeymen printers, setting it more correctly. His proofs were considered marvelous in so young a workman. The labor of "feeding" for the hand press of old times was performed upon a flat table and raised many fingers upon "fish heads." As a journeyman he set type at 15¢ a line per thousand lines, or for \$5 a week and was thankful for the chance. The money he received was often barely enough to pay his board, and the demand for printers was very limited; but when ever he obtained a situation, he was able to keep it as long as there was any work to be done.

Although in politics a decided wing so long as that party was faithful to its principles, and afterwards a free-soiler and republican, he worked in several democratic offices and gained the confidence of his employers by diligence and good faith. He was conversant with the inner political secrets of those offices, as journeymen often are, but never revealed them. He set up many columns of radical democratic editorials and corrected one from every other hand manuscript, correcting the punctuation, wrong spelling and mistakes of fact, so that when the foreman was in a great hurry it would sometimes happen that his matter was "blumped" in the form without even taking a first proof. This he regarded as the highest compliment that could be paid to him as a compositor.

From early to old it was his ambition to conduct a newspaper, and at fifteen years of age he commenced writing articles, which were published in favor of the election of Gen. Hart to his present term. He occasionally prepared local news, and in 1844 conducted the political department of a whole newspaper, supporting Henry Clay for president, and furnishing for none and a half to two columns a week for the munificent pay of \$1. On the receipt of the first \$12 all in hard money, the sum looked enormous. It was the first positive fruits of his pen, and he used it all in taking his first trip to Boston, inspecting its wonders, participating in the 4th of July celebration, and witnessing the magnificent fireworks on Boston common.

From that time forward he wrote for a great many newspapers and periodicals, receiving however very little money until 1854, when he undertook as a reporter to furnish Charlesworth items for the Boston Daily Transcript, for which he received \$2 a week—picking up the news morning, evening or no-tune, and writing it by the way, so as to wherever it happened, and handing it in at the office of that newspaper.

His first attempt at making a speech was a failure for a very good reason. The speech was made by Daniel Webster in New Hampshire to an admiring crowd of whites in 1840 and it was so interesting and impressive that he dropped his pencil and listened in rapt wonder.

An editorial written by him in 1857 on "Bloody Kansas" was widely copied in the Republican press of Massachusetts and secured him the offer of a permanent engagement on the New Bedford (Mass.) daily Standard. He also wrote jokes for the Carpet-Bag, a humorous weekly of Boston; abolitionist essays for the Liberator, Wm. Lloyd Garrison's paper; social and domestic articles for the Olive Branch and the New England Farmer. While in the employ of the Standard, although his wages were but \$6 to \$12 a week, by rigorous industry and close economy he saved enough to purchase the North Adams Transcript. The fire demon again scourged him, and the severest labor and economy were necessary to keep his paper alive; but he did good service toward the election of Abraham Lincoln and for the success of his party in county and state.

In 1860 he sold the Transcript and became an assistant editor of the Springfield Republican under Samuel Bowles. The late J. G. Holland was also a member of the staff of the Republican at that time. Two years later, on the consolidation of the Detroit Advertiser and the Tribune, the managers applied to Mr. Bowles for a first class journalist, and Mr. George became assistant editor of the Tribune. After a year's experience in editorial work, he purchased \$4000 worth of stock in that journal, the late E. B. Ward indorsing his note for \$3000; and in October, 1863, he took complete control of the business and the mechanical departments. The paper attained great prosperity and success under his management. His debts were paid in less than two years, and at the end of four years he owned an interest worth \$14,000. In 1867 he sold his stock to J. E. Scripps, now publisher of that enterprising paper, the Detroit Evening News, and became superintendent of an oil company in West Virginia.

On the death of the late John A. Kerr, the surviving partner, George Jerome, offered him an interest in the state printing; and, Jan. 1, 1869, he assumed control of the state printing office and bindery. In 1873 he became chief editor of the Lansing Republican, which had achieved a good reputation under able writers, but under his care and skill became known among newspaper men as "the model paper of Michigan." His newspaper methods have been largely followed by many editors, who readily recognized their merits; and in this way he has done more than any other one man to elevate the newspaper press of the Peninsular state.

As an editor, he was painstaking and always endeavored to get at the bottom facts in everything that needed to be touched by his trenchant pen. He made confidants of his assistants and was ever ready to heed and accept counsel from them whenever good reasons were given that any particular course should be pursued. An employe who was capable, honest and industrious was never deserted by Wm. S. George.

Besides his arduous labors as a journalist and business man, he served as secretary of an Odd Fellows' lodge, patriarch of the Sons of Temperance, a director of the Lansing national bank, vice president of the Lansing library and literary association, and at the time of his death was president of the Central Michigan savings bank.

He was for many years a member of the Republican state central committee and chairman of the Republican committee of Ingham county. In 1876 he was a delegate from the Sixth District to the Cincinnati convention which nominated Hayes and Wheeler.

He left the Whigs in the days of their strength and joined the Free Soil party, from which he easily changed to the Republican organization. In the great struggle for freedom to the black man as well as to the white, and later in the contest for national supremacy, the ready pen of Mr. George was most effectually used on the side of liberty and union. He believed in the doctrine that "the one sole sacred thing beneath the cope of heaven is man"; and he was ever ready to defend the rights of the worthy down-trodden.

He was educated in the orthodox faith, but the convictions of his mature years placed him among the Unitarians and Liberalists. He was for seven years an attendant at Theodore Parker's church in Boston, and he believed that the nearer right a man can live in this world the better off will he be in the world to come.

As a citizen, Mr. George showed great public spirit. He gave munificently for all charitable purposes, and the needy poor never appealed to him in vain. Many a young man now on the road to prosperity owes his success to the sound and kindly advice and the material assistance which he received from W. S. George. His private benefactions were many and large, and but few, even of his most intimate friends, knew of their extent.

He took great interest in the cause of education, and especially in the efficiency and thoroughness of our common schools, for he recognized the fact that in these are trained the great masses of the common people on whom the welfare of the nation depends.

In form Mr. George was of medium height, slender, sinewy and active. He had brown hair, blue eyes and a florid complexion. He was one of the greatest brain-workers this country has ever produced; and, until the last year, he had hardly known sickness enough to disable him from business. He signed a temperance pledge when he was twelve years of age and always observed it. He never used tobacco, nor gambled, or bet a cent even on elections. The temperance cause in Michigan never had a truer friend or a more zealous worker than W. S. George.

He was eminently a just man in all his dealings with his fellows and was ever guided by the highest sense of honor. He was genial in his nature. While he felt kindly toward all, he had but few friends who thoroughly knew him, for he made but few confidants; those who knew him best appreciated and loved him most.

No man ever received kindlier treatment at the hands of Michigan journalists than W. S. George; and the family and friends gratefully appreciate the many glowing tributes paid to his memory.

HON. JOHN N. INGERSOLL.

Following is the sketch of Hon. JOHN N. INGERSOLL, as prepared by his son Ward, and read by President DeLand:

John N. Ingersoll was born in the town of North Castle, Westchester County, New York, May 4, 1817. He was left an orphan at the age of eleven years, when he was adopted into the family of an uncle residing in Fairfield county, Conn., where he remained until he was thirteen. At that age he conceived a desire to learn the printing business and entered an office in New York City.

In 1837, upon the personal advice of Horace Greeley, with whom he had worked while an apprentice, and with whom his subsequent relations were of the most intimate character up to the death of the great journalist, Mr. Ingersoll came to Detroit. The first year he worked as a compositor on the Detroit Free Press. The year following he became foreman of the Detroit Advertiser, also contributing many articles to the paper. He relinquished this position in 1839 to become the editor and publisher of the Macomb Statesman, a weekly paper at Mt. Clemens. There he remained until 1842, when he removed to St. Clair and commenced the publication of the St. Clair Banner, which he continued until 1846. At that date he started, in conjunction with a partner—one who deserted the enterprise in less than three months—the Lake Superior News, the first paper ever published in that region of the country.

During his residence in northern Michigan, Mr. Ingersoll acted as enrolling and engrossing clerk in the state legislature; and in 1848, during its first session in Lansing, he was elected secretary of the senate, but he resigned the position for one more congenial. In 1849 he was elected representative from Chippewa County and the unorganized territory of Lake Superior. Though but thirty-one years of age, he received a flattering vote for speaker, an honor entirely unsought.

The year 1850 found Mr. Ingersoll again in Detroit, an editor of the Detroit daily Bulletin, and at the same time editing and publishing the Hesperian, a monthly magazine of great popularity and literary merit. He continued to edit these publications until 1852, when he assumed the sole management of the Detroit daily Times, and subsequently he became its proprietor. He remained in Detroit until 1856, when, on account of ill health in his family, by the advice of physicians he returned to Rochester, New York, and became one of the editors and publishers of the Rochester daily Tribune. Although he remained in that city but two years, in that period he was so unsuccessful in financial affairs as to lose several thousand dollars, the accumulation of many years of unceasing labor. This, coupled with the knowledge that his family had not received the benefit anticipated, would have discouraged a less resolute person; but Mr. Ingersoll, with an undaunted will and an unwavering faith in his own ability, once more turned his face toward Michigan. While making a prospecting tour, and ostensibly writing up central Michigan, he was induced to purchase the office of the Shiawassee American, then located at Owosso. He conducted the paper at Owosso until 1862, when he removed to Corunna, where he resided until his death.

For many years Mr. Ingersoll was closely identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, filling the offices of grand patriarch of the grand encampment and grand master of the grand lodge of Michigan, and being one of the leading and most honored members of the fraternity.

In 1834 Mr. Ingersoll married Miss Harriet M. Robinson, a resident of New York. In 1860 he was grievously afflicted by her loss by a terrible death from burning. In 1862 he married Mrs. Julia H. Barnum of Owosso, who now survives him.

While a resident of Owosso, Mr. Ingersoll was elected to the state senate, serving as senator in three sessions of the legislature, and was again elected to the house in

HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION.

At the opening excursion trip given by the Jackson, Lansing and Saginaw Railroad Company late in the fall of 1867, several newspaper men of the state talked over the subject of an organization of the editors and publishers of Michigan; and as a result a call was issued for a meeting at Jackson Jan. 23, 1868, for the purpose of effecting such organization.

At this meeting twenty-four editors and publishers were present. E. B. Pond of the Ann Arbor Argus presided, James O'Donnell of the Jackson Citizen acted as secretary, and T. S. Applegate of the Adrian Times was treasurer. A constitution was adopted which named the organization "The Michigan Publishers' Association," and declared its object to be the promotion of the mutual interests of the publishers of the state of Michigan. The initiation fee was fixed at three dollars, and no paper was allowed to have more than one vote on any question. The annual meeting was fixed for the third Tuesday in July in each year, and the constitution was made amendable by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any annual meeting.

The second annual meeting of the association was held at Lansing Jan. 28, 1869. The president explained that the meeting, which should have been held in the July previous had been postponed on account of the pending of the presidential campaign. There were present at this meeting 34 members. The treasurer reported \$84 received, nothing expended. The officers of the previous year were re-elected. The date of the annual meeting was changed to the second Tuesday in June. The meeting closed with an address by Rev. J. A. B. Stone of the Kalamazoo Telegraph, on "The Press as an Educator."

The third annual meeting was held at Adrian June 8, 1869. There were 26 members present. President Pond delivered an elaborate address, and John N. Ingersoll of the Corunna American read a poem, entitled "The Triumphs of the Press." S. D. Bingham of the Lansing Republican was elected president for the ensuing year and T. S. Applegate of the Adrian Times secretary and treasurer. Premiums were offered by the association for the best made-up paper and for the best local columns. At this meeting annual dues of one dollar were established. Upon the adjournment of this meeting an excursion was enjoyed to Coldwater, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids via the Michigan Southern Railroad, the association inspecting at Coldwater the art gallery of H. M. Lewis, Esq., and being entertained with banquets at Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids.

The fourth annual meeting was held at Kalamazoo June 14, 1870. Twenty-six members were present. The treasurer reported the total receipts to the close of 1869 at \$137; expense of printing proceedings, \$42.50. The association at this meeting settled the question that the matter of membership is an individual one and is not limited to connection with any particular paper. The executive committee reported that they had been unable to arrange an excursion for the current year. George Willard of the Battle Creek Journal was elected president and T. S. Applegate secretary and treasurer. A resolution was adopted protesting against the enactment of any law limiting the free circulation of newspapers in the mails within the county where published, and insisting on a discrimination in rates of postage on newspapers according to both weight and distance. Appropriate resolutions were also adopted on the death of W. T. Kennedy, a member of the association. Retiring President Bingham delivered an address on "The Press and the People; and L. J. Bates of the Detroit Post read a poem on "The Press of the Future."

The fifth annual meeting was held at Bay City July 18, 1871. Twenty-nine papers were represented. The membership fee was reduced from \$3 to \$2. President Willard delivered an address, and Will M. Carleton read his poem, "The Editor's Guest," written especially for the occasion. The officers elected for the ensuing year

were: President, J. N. Ingersoll of Corunna; Secretary, J. E. Scripps of the Detroit Tribune; Secretary, T. S. Applegate.

The presidential campaign of 1872 again caused a postponement of the annual meeting, which for that year was held at Grand Rapids Sept. 20, 1872. There were seventeen members present. The treasurer's report showed \$42 received, and \$48.27 expended for printing proceedings; balance on hand, \$78.24. Henry S. Clubb of the Grand Haven Herald read a paper upon gratuitous advertising, Wm. S. George of the Lansing Republican one upon the make-up of a newspaper, and A. L. Aldrich of the Flint Globe one on editorial probity. The officers elected were: President, John N. Ingersoll of Corunna; Secretary, J. E. Scripps; Treasurer, H. S. Clubb.

The seventh annual meeting was held at Detroit June 17 and 18, 1873. Forty-nine members were present at this meeting. The name of the association was at this meeting changed to the Michigan Press Association; and the president, secretary and treasurer were made ex-officio the executive committee. The date of the annual meeting was also changed to the second Tuesday of August. The meeting closed with an address by President Ingersoll and an excursion on the Detroit river given by the daily press and the paper dealers of Detroit. The officers elected were: President, R. L. Warren of East Saginaw; secretary, W. S. George; treasurer, A. L. Aldrich.

On February 17, 1874, a special meeting of the association was held at Lansing for the purpose of petitioning Congress for a restoration of the free delivery of weekly newspapers in the county where published.

The eighth annual meeting was held at East Saginaw Aug. 11, 1874. The secretary reported that the postage amendment asked for had been enacted by Congress. The treasurer reported a balance of \$22.51 received from his predecessor, \$121 for membership fees, \$57 expended, and a balance of \$66.51 still remaining in the treasury. The constitution was amended so as to change the time of the annual meeting to the second Tuesday in February. Wm. S. George was elected president, Henry S. Dow of the Lumbermen's Gazette secretary, and A. L. Aldrich treasurer.

The ninth annual meeting was held at Lansing Feb. 9, 1875. The president announced the death of Henry S. Dow, the secretary of the association, and J. W. Allen of Leslie was elected to fill the vacancy. The old officers were otherwise continued in office. The attendance at this meeting was but 10.

On August 17, 1875, the Michigan Press Association accompanied the state legislature on an excursion to the upper peninsula, 26 members participating.

The tenth annual meeting was held at Lansing Feb. 8, 1876. Seventeen members were present. The treasurer reported a balance of \$96.51 on hand. W. W. Woolnough of the Battle Creek Tribune was elected president, George P. Sanford of the Lansing Journal vice president, J. W. Allen of the Leslie Herald secretary, and A. L. Aldrich treasurer. A premium of \$25 was offered for the best schedule of advertising rates. The constitution was amended so as to empower the executive committee to designate the time of holding the annual meeting at any date they might deem expedient in the months of January, February, or March.

The executive committee, for some unexplained reason, failed to call the annual meetings for 1877 and 1878, and none was held in either year at the time provided by the constitution. Fearing the effects of a longer interregnum, an informally called meeting was held in Detroit during the continuance of the state fair in the latter year, i. e., Sept. 19, 1878. Twenty members were present and Vice-President Sanford presided. Geo. P. Sanford of the Lansing Journal was elected president, Edwin S. Hoskins of the Bellevue Gazette secretary, and Rice A. Beal of the Ann Arbor Courier treasurer.

The twelfth annual meeting was held at Lansing Jan. 7, 1879, with 33 members present. T. S. Applegate contributed a valuable paper on "Advertising," J. E. Scripps read one on "Some Elements of Success in Journalism," and Geo. P. Sanford one on "The Telegraph in Journalism." The following resolution was debated and finally adopted:

Resolved, That there be a committee of five appointed to examine and report what action, if any, should be had upon the law of libel in this state, and to report such a bill to the legislature as shall seem to them proper and best.

Messrs. Shepard, Messmore, Fowler, George and Beal were appointed the committee. The existing officers were permitted to hold over.

The thirteenth annual meeting was held at Ann Arbor Jan. 27, 1880, 68 members being present. The afternoon was spent in an inspection of the university. At the evening session papers were read on "Wild-Cat Newspapers" by Gil R. Osmun of the Detroit Evening News, and on "Early Newspaper History of Detroit" by Silas Farmer. W. S. George gave an extempore address on "Newspaper Make-Up." The

committee on libel law not reporting, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the chair, of which J. M. Shepard of Cassopolis shall be chairman, whose duty shall be as follows: 1. To correspond with a large number of the leading publishers of the country and ascertain their views as to what legal protection the press needs in the matter of the increasing frequency of frivolous and vexatious prosecutions for libel. 2. To employ legal assistance and draft a bill, to be submitted to the next legislature, embodying such provisions as shall at the same time protect the public against the reckless and scurrilous publisher and legitimate journalism from the annoyance of a prosecution every time a harmless and unavoidable error creeps into a newspaper, and to prevent such accidents from being made a means of black-mail. 3. To take such means as they may deem advisable to urge upon every publisher in Michigan to get his representative in the legislature committed, in advance of election, to the support of such measure.

Resolved, That this committee are authorized to expend a sum not exceeding \$100 in the prosecution of this duty.

Messrs. Shepard, Beal, Church, J. E. Scripps and Sanford were appointed such committee. Officers were then elected as follows: President, R. A. Beal; Vice Presidents, L. A. Duncan, Geo. F. Lewis, M. D. Hamilton; Secretary, Edwin S. Hoskins; Treasurer, E. F. Grabill. Biographical sketches were read of Thomas L. Grant and Seth Lewis, deceased members of the fraternity.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL

OF THE MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

FROM ITS FIRST ORGANIZATION.

	1868	1869	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882
Abbott F. S., Richmond Review.....													1		
Adams G. L., Fowlerville Review.....														1	
Ainger F. B., Charlotte Republican.....														1	
Allison C. C., Cassopolis Democrat.....													1	1	
Allen J. W., Leslie Herald.....							1								
Aldrich A. J., Coldwater Republican.....								1	1				1		
Aldrich A. L., Flint Globe.....					1	1	1	1							
Aldrich R. P., Parma Public Advertiser.....			1												
Andrews E. S., Williamston Enterprise.....														1	
Applegate T. S., Adrian Times.....	1	1	1	1	1	1				1			1		
Arnold J. M., Michigan Christian Advocate..													1		
Arnold O., Three Rivers Herald.....													1		
Atkinson John, Detroit Union.....							1								
Bailey C. W., Vicksburg Monitor.....												1		1	1
Bailey J. N., Ann Arbor Argus.....															
Bailey J. W., Portland Observer.....														1	
Baker H. E., Detroit Tribune.....					1										
Bartram W. H. H., Midland Independent.....		1	1	1											
Bates L. J., Detroit Post.....			1	1	1		1								
Bates Morgan Jr., Marshall Statesman.....							1								
Bates W. R., East Saginaw.....								1							
Beach E. H., Memphis Leader.....											1				
Beal R. A., Ann Arbor Courier.....					1		1					1	1	1	
Bement B., Muir Herald.....								1							
Bissell B. B., Albion Republican.....													1		1
Biltz Aloyz, Spring Lake Republican.....													1	1	
Bingham S. D., Lansing Republican.....	1	1	1	1	1								1		
Birney James, Bay City Chronicle.....					1										
Blackman E. A., Decatur Republican.....		1													
Blosser Mat D., Manchester Enterprise.....		1					1								
Bodine W. H., Battle Creek Tribune.....										1					
Bowen W. J., Coldwater Republican.....			1												
Bowers G. E., Hastings Banner.....														1	1

	1868	1869	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882
Boynton A. G., Detroit Free Press.....							1	1							
Brearley W. H., Detroit Evening News.....											1		1	1	1
Brock S. P., Ionia National.....														1	
Bruce V. W., Howard City Record.....												1			
Buckley G. W., Battle Creek Journal.....												1	1		
Burgess F. H., Marshall Statesman.....	1	1													
Burk W. H., Detroit Commercial Advertiser.....						1	1								
Burleigh J. L., Ann Arbor Democrat.....												1			
Cannon J. W., Oxford Globe.....													1		
Carlton B. L., Jackson Patriot.....	1														
Carrier Irving, Ovid Register.....														1	
Chandler William, Cheboygan Tribune.....												1	1	1	
Chapin H. G., Caro Advertiser.....													1	1	
Church Nathan, Grand Rapids Times.....						1							1		
Clark M. H., Grand Rapids Democrat.....	1	1		1											
Clute W. H., Three Rivers Reporter.....	1	1	1	1				1							
Clubb H. S., Grand Haven Herald.....						1									
Cobb J. T., Grange Visitor.....														1	
Coggshall Bela, Flint Democrat.....													1		
Cole J. M., Ann Arbor Journal.....															
Collier R. M., Grass Lake News.....													1		
Conway S. T., Paw Paw True Northerner.....										1					
Cook Marshall, Hastings Banner.....														1	
Cook W. W., St Louis Herald.....								1				1			
Corbett G. S., St Johns Republican.....											1				
Cornell W. F., North Lansing Echo.....		1									1				
Cottrell E. W., Michigan Farmer.....															
Cowles E. D., Bay City Herald.....							1	1							
Crane Miss E. C., Kalamazoo News.....					1		1								
Cresswell J. A., Grand Rapids Post.....														1	
Cross Japhet, Adrian Journal.....			1	1											
Crutzman J. P., Three Rivers Tribune.....							1	1	1	1	1		1		
Culley F. C., Eaton Rapids Journal.....											1				
Dean H. S., Ann Arbor Register.....								1					1		
DeLand C. V., Saginaw Herald.....		1					1						1	1	1
Dennis J. H., Hastings Home Journal.....								1					1		
Dennis J. I., Jonesville Independent.....												1			
Dewey G. M., Hastings Banner.....				1			1	1		1			1		
Dickinson C. N., Grand Haven Herald.....							1								
Dodge E. W., Grand Rapids Union.....		1													
Dodge P. S., Stanton Clipper.....														1	
Dow H. S., Bay City Lumberman's Gazette.....						1	1	1							
Duncan L. A., Niles Republican.....													1	1	
Earle C. M. W., Greenville Democrat.....												1			
Easton D. J., Union City Register.....								1							
Eaton W. L., Kalamazoo Telegraph.....														1	1
Egabroad H., Dundee Reporter.....													1		
Esterling G. E., Ionia Standard.....														1	
Fairchild J. H., Reed City Clarion.....								1							
Fairchild J. K., Owosso Crusader.....						1								1	
Fox T. B., Rochester Era.....							1								
Fee J. H., Adrian Times.....														1	
Finn A. H., Capac Argus.....														1	
Fitzgerald J. W., Ovid Union.....														1	
Foster E., Cedar City Record.....													1		
Frazier C. L., Clam Lake News.....						1									1
Fuller C. L., Owosso Crusader.....							1								
Fuller O., Mason News.....														1	
Fowler S. W., Manistee Times.....												1			
George W. S., Lansing Republican.....						1	1	1	1			1	1	1	
Gibbons R., Michigan Farmer.....								1							
Gibson W. J., Detroit Post.....								1							
Goodenough A. F., Farwell Press.....										1					

	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882
Grabill E. F., Greenville Independent.....			1				1	1	1	1		1	1	1
Green E. H., Ypsilanti.....												1		
Greenleaf C. J., Dowagiac Republican.....												1		
Greusel J., Detroit Free Press.....												1	1	1
Griffey C. G., Negaunee Iron Herald.....												1		
Griffin H. A., Wrandote Enterprise.....					1									
Griffith J. W., Greenville Democrat.....						1			1					
Hamilton M. D., Monroe Commercial.....						1						1		
Harrington D. B., Mason.....	1													
Harter L. F., Detroit Post.....			1											
Hawley T. D., Detroit Union.....					1									
Henderson D. C., Allegan Journal.....		1			1						1	1	1	1
Herron A. H., St. Johns Republican.....			1					1						
Hilbourne H. S., Ithaca Democrat.....													1	
Hine J. W., Lowell Journal.....												1		1
Holden J. S., Farwell Register.....					1						1	1		
Holmes J. G., Buchanan Record.....												1	1	
Hopkins J., Sanilac Reporter.....								1				1		
Hopkins S. S., Romeo Observer.....													1	
Hoskins E. S., St. Louis Leader.....						1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1
Hotchkiss G. W., Saginaw Courier.....			1											
Ingersoll John N., Corunna American.....		1	1		1	1	1				1	1		
Jenks H., Holly Register.....														
Jenney R. W., Flint Democrat.....			1		1									
Jenney Mrs. R. W., Flint Democrat.....			1											
Jennings H. N., Fenton Independent.....		1												
Johnson J. V., Charlotte Leader.....													1	
Keating J. W., Ann Arbor Courier.....												1		
Kedzie D. H., Grand Haven Herald.....													1	
Kellogg J. H., Battle Creek Health Review.....													1	
Kelly E. J., Pontiac Bill Poster.....						1					1	1	1	
Kendall L. B., Kalamazoo Telegraph.....											1	1		
Kennedy W. T., Jr., Bay City Signal.....		1												
Kimball C. F., Pontiac Gazette.....					1									
King J. W., Lansing Republican.....											1	1	1	1
Kinney W. T., Saranac Standard.....			1											
Kittridge K., Mason News.....	1	1		1		1	1	1				1	1	1
Lewis G. F., Saginaw Saginawian.....												1		
Little S. H., Northville Record.....			1			1								
Lomax J., Kalamazoo Gazette.....			1	1										
Marsh M. H., Detroit Union.....			1											
Marvin W. H., Utica Sentinel.....								1				1		
Maze J. H., Cedar Springs Clipper.....				1										
McCracken S. B., Detroit Com'l Advertiser.....	1	1						1						
McMillan A., Dexter Leader.....						1					1			
McVicar J., Detroit Commercial Advertiser.....								1	1					
Messmore I. E., Grand Rapids Democrat.....											1			
Miller L. C., Howell Republican.....													1	
Moore C., Ypsilanti Commercial.....						1						1		
Morley F., Detroit Post.....					1									
Morton E. G., Monroe Monitor.....		1												
Nearpass C. V., Whitehall Forum.....														1
Nellis F. E., Mt. Clemens Monitor.....												1	1	
Nelson W. C., Northport Enterprise.....													1	
Nims C. V., Lexington Jeffersonian.....														1
Nisbett W. P., Pontiac Bill Poster.....						1	1					1		
O'Brien E., Eaton Rapids Journal.....											1			
O'Donnell J., Jackson Citizen.....	1	1												
Osmun G. R., Detroit Evening News.....											1	1	1	1
Palmeter J., Hart Journal.....						1								
Palmer F. A., Saginaw Republican.....			1			1								
Patterson C. R., Ypsilanti Commercial.....												1		
Payne W. H., Michigan Teacher.....	1													

	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882
Peabody C., Detroit Union.....	1														
Phister A. V., Hubbardston Advertiser.....					1	1	1		1				1	1	
Pond E. B., Ann Arbor Argus.....	1	1	1	1		1	1								
Pond C. V. R., Quincy Herald.....													1		
Potter J. M., Lansing Sentinel.....														1	1
Powell E. R., Stanton Herald.....				1		1	1							1	1
Pratt H., Mason News.....		1													
Quinby W. E., Detroit Free Press.....					1										
Rankin F. H., Flint Citizen.....					1					1					
Rann H. L., Pontiac Gazette.....		1	1	1											
Ricaby Wm., St. Joseph Republican.....														1	
Robertson J., Schoolcraft Dispatch.....															
Rose E. O., Big Rapids Magnet.....				1		1							1		
Rowlson H. B., Hillsdale Standard.....	1	1	1	1					1				1		1
Russell J. M., Clare County Cleaver.....									1					1	
Sale L. D., Adrian Journal.....		1													
Sanford G. P., Lansing Journal.....							1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Saunders B. F., Grand Ledge Independent.....							1								
Saunders Joseph, Charlotte Republican.....			1			1			1				1		1
Schemerhorn W. T. B., Hudson Gazette.....		1				1									
Scripps E. W., Detroit Evening News.....										1					
Scripps J. E., Detroit Evening News.....	1	1	1		1	1	1			1		1	1	1	1
Sessions H. C., Ionia Sentinel.....						1									
Sexton C. C., Grand Rapids Democrat.....		1			1	1									
Shakespeare A. J., Kalamazoo Gazette.....						1									
Shaw E. O., Newaygo Republican.....														1	
Shaw G. K., Bay City Tribune.....							1								
Shaw H. A., Eaton Rapids Journal.....		1													
Shepard J. M., Cassopolis Vigilant.....												1	1	1	
Sherman L. A., Port Huron Times.....						1	1								
Shultz J. H., St. Louis Herald.....														1	
Slocum Fred, Holly Advertiser.....									1				1	1	
Smith C. V., Centerville Republican.....														1	
Smith J. D., Howell Republican.....							1								
Smith L. M. S., Grand Haven Union.....	1	1													
Smith Robert, Ithaca Journal.....		1					1		1					1	1
Smith V. C., Schoolcraft Dispatch.....						1									
Stacy S. C., Tecumseh Herald.....														1	
Steirs J. H., Wayne Review.....													1	1	
Stewart W. E., South Haven Sentinel.....														1	
Stone J. A. B., Kalamazoo Telegraph.....	1	1	1	1											
Stone J. C., Laingsburg News.....												1	1	1	
Stone J. H., Detroit Post and Tribune.....			1	1		1	1		1			1	1	1	1
Strong Orno, Nashville News.....													1	1	1
Sturtevant A., Benton Harbor Palladium.....					1										
Sutton D. T., Richmond Review.....										1			1	1	
Talbot J. F., Port Huron Commercial.....						1									
Taylor D., Ithaca Journal.....		1													
Taylor J. C., Ionia Sentinel.....						1									
Taylor L. C., Charlotte Republican.....													1		
Teall E. A., Romeo Observer.....	1	1													
Tefft V. J., Mason News.....															1
Ten Eyck J. P., Wenona Herald.....				1											
Turner A. B., Grand Rapids Eagle.....													1		
Van Antwerp W. W., Jackson Patriot.....	1	1					1							1	
Van Buren William, Lansing Republican.....												1			1
Vandercook F. M., St. Louis Leader.....															1
Van Fossen J. W., Paw Paw Free Press.....	1		1						1						
Wait A. H., Sturgis Journal.....							1								
Wait J. G., Sturgis Journal.....			1												
Walker H. N., Detroit Free Press.....	1	1													
Walters D. C., Richmond Review.....										1					
Ward T. O., Paw Paw True Northerner.....	1	1		1											

	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882
Ward W. J., Wenona Herald.....							1		1			1			
Warren Joseph, Bay City Tribune.....														1	
Warren R. L., Flint Citizen.....		1	1	1	1	1	1								
Weller F., Muskegon News and Reporter.....						1									
Westland W. C., Grand Ledge Independent...												1		1	
Willard George, Battle Creek Journal.....	1	1		1	1										
Woodard G. L., Litchfield Gazette.....												1		1	
Woolnough W. W., Battle Creek Tribune.....						1	1		1						
Wooster W. M., Decatur Republican.....													1		
Worsch R., Jackson Volksfreund.....													1	1	

One member has attended 11 annual meetings; seven have attended 8; and four have attended 7; all the rest a less number.

At the January meeting of 1869 Lt. Gov. Morgan Bates was elected an honorary member; and at the meeting of 1873 Gen. A. S. Williams was similarly honored.

The record of attendance at the meeting for 1871 was never put in the hands of the secretary chosen at that meeting, and hence was not printed with the minutes. The list printed above for that year is consequently only partial.

LIST OF OFFICERS OF THE MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION FROM ITS FIRST ORGANIZATION.

PRESIDENTS.

1878 Elihu B. Pond of Ann Arbor.
 1869 S. D. Bingham of Lansing.
 1860 George Willard of Battle Creek.
 1871 John N. Ingersoll of Corunna.
 1873 Robert L. Warren of East Saginaw.
 1874 William S. George of Lansing.
 1876 W. W. Woolnough of Battle Creek.
 1878 George P. Sanford of Lansing.
 1880 Rice A. Beal of Ann Arbor.
 1881 Charles V. DeLand of East Saginaw.
 1882 James E. Scripps of Detroit.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

1868 M. H. Clark, J. A. B. Stone, and H. N. Walker.
 1869 M. H. Clark and J. A. B. Stone.
 1869 J. N. Ingersoll and H. N. Walker.
 1870 H. B. Rowleson and J. H. Stone.
 1871 R. L. Warren and L. J. Bates.
 1872 J. H. Maze and W. H. Van Antwerp
 1873 J. Cross, J. H. Stone, E. B. Pond.
 1874 J. Cross, W. W. Woolnough, Robert Smith.
 1876 George P. Sanford.
 1878 J. H. Stone, Wm. Van Buren, E. F. Grabill.
 1880 L. A. Duncan, Geo. F. Lewis, M. D. Hamilton.
 1881 Geo. P. Sanford, James M. Shepard, Orno Strong.
 1882 James W. Hine, Don C. Henderson, H. B. Rowleson.

